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# Daily Report

# Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-93-173
Thursday
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# Daily Report
## Near East & South Asia

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**NOTICE TO READERS**: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

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## Arab-Israeli Talks

### Al-Tarawinah, 'Ashrawi, 'Abd-al-Shafi Review Talks

*JN0809182793 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Report by Shakir Maharimah from Washington]

[Text] The peace negotiations under way in Washington between the Arab and Israeli delegations could achieve real, tangible progress on some tracks during this round.

On the Jordanian-Israeli track, Dr. Fayiz al-Tarawinah, head of the Jordanian delegation, has pointed out that in light of the Palestinian-Israeli accord, some new formulations will be added to the agenda, noting that an announcement of the agenda could take place after the Israeli-Palestinian agreement is signed, but not simultaneously with it, as some sources predict.

[Begin al-Tarawinah recording] We have an agenda, and we are still waiting to see what happens on the Palestinian-Israeli track. Then, we will look at the agenda. Announcing the agenda might take some time. We need not sign, because it is not an agreement. It is only an agenda.

[Reporter] Is this meant to keep a balance with the Palestinian track?

[Al-Tarawinah] This has been the case from the very beginning. We have sought, right from the very beginning, to maintain this balance in the peace process.

[Reporter] [question indistinct].

[Al-Tarawinah] As I have said, it is a continuation of the same pattern, discussing the temporary committees that are discussing various issues, such as security, borders, refugees, economy, waters, environment, and energy. We have continued in the same pattern. No change has taken place. [end recording]

As for the Palestinian-Israeli track, detailed and practical issues are not being discussed now, pending the outcome of the ongoing negotiations between Israel and the PLO to sign the accord on Monday, 13 September.

[Begin Hanan 'Ashrawi recording] As for the Palestinian track, if agreement is made on unresolved issues, including mutual recognition, Arab coordination is finalized, and discussions at democratic Palestinian institutions are finished, then it is possible to sign the agreement on Monday. [end recording]

All sources here indicate that the signing of the Palestinian- Israeli accord could take place at the end of this round.

[Begin Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi recording] In fact, I have no information. We do not know anything about this. We had thought that things are pending mutual recognition between the PLO and Israel. However, since the White House has addressed invitations, then I think that the endorsement will be on Monday. [end recording]

As for the Syrian-Israeli track, it is still faltering. The same goes for the Lebanese track.

### Al-'Allaf Pessimistic on Withdrawal Accord With Israel

*JN0809204993 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 2015 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Text] [Chief Syrian negotiator] Muwaffaq al-'Allaf has said the fifth day's meeting at the 11th round has not seen any change in the Israeli stance toward the basic question of withdrawal. This, he said, has prevented any progress, as happened in yesterday's meeting.

Speaking to reporters after the meeting, al-'Allaf said: We cannot talk about any progress in today's meeting. We have continued to discuss the basic question of withdrawal, but the Israeli position is still obstructing any prospects for progress.

Answering a question, al-'Allaf said: What has happened so far confirms Israel is not serious about peace.

Al-'Allaf denied discussions in this round dealt with partial solutions, saying: We are here discussing what should be done to end Israeli occupation, so the parties concerned can establish just and comprehensive peace.

He ruled out possible progress during the remaining two sessions in this round.

### Delegation Leader Comments on 8 Sep Meetings

*NC0909064693 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 0430 GMT 9 Sep 93*

[Text] A new session of the 11th round of peace talks concluded yesterday. After emerging from a meeting with the Israeli delegation, head of the Lebanese delegation Suhayl Shammas said: I can say that we exchanged views and had an in-depth dialogue. We explored the Israeli paper, the meaning of certain concepts, and certain terms used to replace other ones. The situation can be described as follows: The gaps in the positions between the two delegations continue. As I said yesterday, I made serious attempts to bridge the gaps. Israel and the Israeli delegation do not exploit the desire to make progress [as heard]. He added: The Lebanese delegation, which represents the Lebanese Government and people, is totally committed to the peace process and to a fruitful conclusion.

## Inter-Arab Affairs

### Arab League Denies Preparations To End Boycott

*NC0809120193 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1113 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Text] Cairo, 8 Sep (MENA)—The Arab League has denied reports that it is preparing to discuss ending the

Arab boycott of Israel. In a statement today, Assistant Arab League Secretary General 'Adnan 'Imran said no Arab state has presented a memo to this effect to the League's council. 'Imran noted that the Arab Gulf states know the boycott was imposed because of Israel's occupation of Arab territories and that it can only be eliminated when the cause is eliminated. He reiterated that every effort in this context must wait until the desired goal is achieved.

[In a related, Abu Dhabi-datelined report, Paris AFP in English at 0931 GMT on 8 September adds the following: "Arab states might ease an economic siege of Israel after Palestinians are granted limited autonomy in the occupied territories and the PLO recognises the Jewish state, Arab boycott officials said on Wednesday [8 September].

["Some Arab nations have already relaxed an indirect boycott and others could follow suit once the autonomy deal is signed and progress is made in peace negotiations with other Arab countries, the officials said.

["Israel should not expect the boycott to be removed altogether just because it recognises the Palestine Liberation Organisation and grants self-rule to Palestinians in Gaza and Jericho, said a Gulf-based boycott official, who requested anonymity.

["But I expect the indirect boycott to be eased gradually, not under a collective decision but as an individual initiative. I think this will encourage Israel to relax its position and offer more for peace.

["I do not think there will be any decision to end the direct boycott until its cause—the Israeli occupation of Arab land—disappears, he said.

["But there could be a relaxation in the indirect boycott. As was the case with South Africa, I believe the taboo of dealing with Israel will break gradually.

["Israel is much more advanced than Arab countries and its industrial production is huge compared with that in Arab states, one official said.

["Ending the boycott means Israel will find a vast outlet for its products and Israeli companies or firms related to Israel can set up industrial projects in Arab states, he said. This will hit Arab industries as they will be less competitive. I think Arabs will pay the price of removing the boycott."]

### Arab League Head: Gaza-Jericho 'Good Beginning'

*NC0809174293 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1701 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Text] Cairo, 8 Sep (MENA)—Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid returned to Cairo this afternoon from Saudi Arabia after ending the third leg of his Arab tour with Lebanese Prime Minister Rafiq al-Hariri. This leg included the United Arab Emirates [UAE], Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia. The sides discussed and implemented the Arab League Council resolution passed during its emergency session, which convened at the end of July in Damascus to discuss financial support for Lebanon.

Upon arrival, Dr. 'Abd-al-Majid stated that the third leg with al-Hariri was to finalize the tour and implement the Arab League Council resolution passed in Damascus on supporting Lebanon after the Israeli aggression on southern Lebanon.

He said that the results of this leg have been positive and revealed the honest desire to support Lebanon after the Israeli aggression on southern Lebanon.

He added that they discussed the Arab stand regarding the latest developments. They also exchanged opinions and consulted with the Arab leaders in the UAE, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia.

On the Gaza-Jericho agreement, the Arab League secretary general said it is a step forward and good beginning on the right road. We hope it will lead to peace among all parties and help to establish stability in the region. He said that a 1,000-mile journey begins with one step. He expressed his belief that with this decision, we have taken the first step.

He affirmed that the Arab League is ready to do everything that is asked of it to bolster and push the peace process forward.

## Palestinian Affairs

### Formula for Recognition Reportedly Reached by PLO

### 'Arafat Says Agreement Completed

*TA0909141193 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1400 GMT 9 Sep 93*

[Text] Yasir 'Arafat said that as far as he is concerned the agreement with the Israeli Government is sealed and that the issue is now being discussed by the PLO Executive Committee in anticipation of an official communique on mutual recognition.

Our correspondent Hayim Hecht reports that 'Arafat made these remarks in a telephone conversation with Knesset Member Talib al-Sani' of the Arab Democratic Party. The PLO leader added that the peace initiative derives from the responsibility of the leaders of the region to ensure a better future and peace and security for the next generations.

## 'Abd-Rabbuh Confirms Agreement

*LD0909133493 Tunis Tunisian Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1300 GMT 9 Sep 93*

[Text] Ladies and gentlemen: We return to the Middle East file. We have now been able to get in touch with Yasir 'Abd-Rabbuh, head of the PLO Information Department, on the question of recognition with Israel. We are on the line with correspondent Moncef Mouadden:

[Mouadden] Welcome, brother Yasir.

['Abd-Rabbuh] Welcome.

[Mouadden] This is the Arabic news desk of Tunis radio. A short while ago news agencies reported that the PLO and Israel have arrived at mutual recognition.

['Abd-Rabbuh] I want to say a few words to you quickly, because I am in a hurry.

[Mouadden] Yes, can you confirm this?

['Abd-Rabbuh] Take this statement from me. A final formula has been arrived at. This is exclusive. This was just reached a few minutes ago, regarding mutual recognition between Israel and the PLO. This will be officially announced tonight or tomorrow morning.

[Mouadden] Thank you.

## 'Text' of Document Published

*JN0909094393 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 9 Sep 93 p 1*

[By Nabil 'Amr]

[Text] Amman—AL-DUSTUR has obtained the text of the Palestinian document recognizing Israel. It was signed by Yasir 'Arafat, head of the state of Palestine, and communicated to the Israeli Government via an Arab party. It is as follows:

- The PLO recognizes Israel's right to exist and live in peace and security.
- Negotiations between the two parties on the transitional [phase] and final settlement shall be based on UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.
- We hereby announce [our] denunciation and discontinuation of terrorism.
- The national Palestinian Charter articles speaking about the liquidation of the State of Israel shall be abolished.
- All future disputes shall be solved peacefully through the Palestinian-Israeli committee.
- I appeal to the inhabitants of the occupied territories to return to normal life between the two parties.

Signed: Yasir 'Arafat

## Hurani Reviews Committee Meeting

*NC0909070093 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0627 GMT 9 Sep 93*

[Text] Tunis, 9 Sep (MENA)—The PLO Executive Committee ended its first meeting under Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat early this morning. PLO Executive Committee member 'Abdallah Hurani said that during the meeting 'Arafat reviewed the texts of the Gaza-Jericho agreement and the joint declaration of principles that Israel and the PLO intend to sign. He noted that 'Arafat also reviewed the details of the declaration of mutual recognition between the PLO and Israel scheduled to be released soon.

Hurani said that 'Arafat will finish reviewing the details and clauses of the agreements that the PLO will sign with Israel at a meeting of the PLO Executive Committee later today. He pointed out that the Executive Committee members listened carefully to 'Arafat's review, which also included the results of the talks he held with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad in Damascus, with President Husni Mubarak in Cairo, and in the Sultanate of Oman.

Hurani, who is opposed to the Gaza-Jericho agreement, noted that as soon as 'Arafat completes his review of the details and articles of the agreement, the PLO Executive Committee will begin discussion of these topics to define its position and the plan of action in the future and determine whether or not the PLO Central Council will be convened to discuss this issue.

Several Palestinian sources have said that even if 'Arafat succeeds in getting the green light from the Executive Committee to sign the agreement, it will not be sufficient to proceed with this process. He will need the approval of the PLO Central Council to sign the Gaza-Jericho agreement and declare mutual recognition of Israel.

## Senior PLO Member on Draft Agreement

*TA0809204293 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 2000 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Text] Just as the PLO Executive Committee is about to convene, one of the organization's senior figures has stated that agreement has been achieved with Israel on the draft of a mutual recognition declaration. The man wished to remain unnamed, but it has been learned that he is in charge of coordinating the moves of the Palestinian delegation to the Washington talks.

According to him, 'Arafat will announce recognition of Israel and its right to exist, will denounce terror, and promise to convene the Palestine National Council with its more than 450 members to ratify the clauses of the agreement.

The senior PLO figure maintained that after the plan is endorsed by the PLO Executive Committee, 'Arafat will announce his commitment at a news conference and specify the clauses of the commitment in a letter to Yitzhaq Rabin.

Tonight 'Arafat is expected to gain the support of 10 Executive Committee members, which is officially composed of 18 members, but two of its members resigned some time ago.

Our special correspondent in Tunis Rina Matzliah reports that concurrently with the Executive Committee meeting, two teams will work out the final drafts of the mutual recognition paper: One joint Israeli-Palestinian team will work in Paris, while another, composed of staffers of Abu-Mazin's [Mahmud 'Abbas]—who is very close to 'Arafat—will operate in Tunis.

### Abu-Sharif Comments on Agreement

*JN0809193293 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Arabic 1730 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Interview with Bassam Abu-Sharif, political adviser to Yasir 'Arafat, by Israeli Television Correspondent Yoni Ben-Menahem in Tunis on 8 September]

[Text] [Ben-Menahem] Mr. Bassam Abu-Sharif, what do you expect to happen in tonight's meeting of the PLO Executive Committee?

[Abu-Sharif] If President Yasir 'Arafat arrives this evening, the Executive Committee will meet to discuss the latest developments relating to the president's contacts in Damascus, Cairo, and Oman. It will also discuss the mutual recognition plan and the signing of the Gaza-Jericho First agreement.

[Ben-Menahem] Is it going to be a discussion or a ratification of the declaration of principles?

[Abu-Sharif] The democratic process must take its course. There are several viewpoints in the Executive Committee that must be raised....

[Ben-Menahem, interrupting] But will the agreement be raised for ratification?

[Abu-Sharif] It will be discussed with the aim of ratifying it. Ratification does not come automatically.

[Ben-Menahem] What position do you expect the Executive Committee members to take? It is known that Taysir Khalid and Mallah are not here?

[Abu-Sharif] The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine are boycotting the meeting. But the Executive Committee comprises 18 members and, in my own opinion, the majority supports President Yasir 'Arafat's line. But the process must take its fair share of discussion from all angles. As I have said, I believe the majority will back President Yasir 'Arafat.

[Ben-Menahem] And when do you expect the Executive Committee's official decision to be announced?

[Abu-Sharif] This depends on how long the meeting takes. The Executive Committee meetings are usually held in two-day sessions. But we hope that if the meeting starts this evening, it will conclude tomorrow, by which time we will have a statement that would push the process forward.

[Ben-Menahem] And the declarations on mutual recognition between Israel and the PLO?

[Abu-Sharif] I have said that I see no reason why the procedural issue should hamper the agreement. President Yasir 'Arafat on 13 December 1988 declared before the UN General Assembly our recognition of Israel and the renunciation of terrorism, which led to the United States's recognition of the PLO at that time. George Shultz was secretary of state then.

[Ben-Menahem] But the mutual recognition today, this statement, would it not include the renunciation of terrorism?

[Abu-Sharif] No. I will not discuss the details of the mutual recognition statement. Quiet diplomacy has worked on finalizing the language. I believe an agreement has already been achieved on a certain draft. President Yasir 'Arafat or the Executive Committee will announce this draft. After that, Mr. Rabin or Mr. Peres, I don't know who, will make a declaration in return. The way will then be paved for the signing of an agreement in Washington.

[Ben-Menahem] Will this declaration touch on the articles in the PLO National Charter, which in the past called for the destruction of the State of Israel?

[Abu-Sharif] President Yasir 'Arafat said the National Charter was superceded. This means that the program adopted by the Palestine National Council in November 1988 replaced this charter. In spite of this, I cannot now discuss the details of this declaration because this subject will be discussed by the Executive Committee. So, let us wait for the outcome of the Executive Committee's meeting.

### 'Abbas on Accord, Opposition

*JN0709122193 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 7 Sep 93 pp 1, 17*

[By Riyad Mansur]

[Text] PLO Executive Committee member Mahmud 'Abbas [Abu-Mazin] has said that the signing of the Palestinian-Israeli agreement will take place after reaching similar agreements on the other Arab tracks. He stressed that there are detailed agreements on security and passageways between Jericho and Gaza. He said that the work on the territorial jurisdiction has not yet been started, and that negotiations in this regard will begin directly after the signing of the agreement.

'Abbas, who was speaking to SAWT AL-SHA'B over by phone from Tunis, said that the date set by the U.S.

Administration for signing the Gaza-Jericho First agreement in Washington on 13 September has not been discussed. He noted that there are some issues that have not yet been resolved on the Palestinian track. He said that there are also issues on the other Arab tracks. He pointed out that the PLO is waiting for all this. This is why we have not yet discussed the date set by Washington, he said.

Answering a question on the guarantees given to the Palestinian side to obligate Israel to fulfill the agreement, particularly regarding the final phase, 'Abbas said: The cosponsors of the peace process, the United States, are the guarantors of the Palestinian-Israeli agreements. In addition to this, the documents of the agreement are kept at the United Nations.

Concerning the increase of the phases of the solution from two to three phases after the signing of the Gaza-Jericho First agreement, Abu-Mazin, who is the chairman of the higher Palestinian committee for following up on the negotiations, said that the solution is still composed of two phases: the first being the transition period in Gaza and Jericho and the final phase, which includes the West Bank. He denied that the PLO is the side that is more prepared to make concessions to Israel. He said: There are no concessions. We are negotiating on the basis of Resolutions 242 and 338 and the U.S. letter of invitation. There has been no deviation from this course. The proof is that we confirmed that Israel has approved Resolution 242.

Concerning whether the Gaza-Jericho plan ignores the issue of elections in the occupied Palestinian territories, Abu-Mazin said: This agreement does not cancel the elections. Neither will mutual recognition make us dissolve the PLO. He emphasized that the Palestinian institutions abide by what some Israeli officials say about turning the PLO into a political party. [sentence as published]

Answering another question concerning issues related to Egypt and Jordan in the agreement, the Palestinian official said: There are issues related to Jordan contained in the agreement. Jordan was mentioned in the agreement with the objective of safeguarding Jordanian and Palestinian interests alike.

Regarding relations with Jordan, he noted that some of the issues which will be raised during the transition period are the issues which necessitated the formation of the six committees between Jordan and the PLO so that Jordan will not be affected in any way.

Mahmud 'Abbas affirmed that the objective the PLO seeks to achieve should be achieved as early as possible and that the results should be reasonable, particularly regarding the transition phase.

The PLO Executive Committee member stressed that during the transition period negotiations, the Palestinian side will propose a confederation with Jordan. He pointed out that the Palestinian side is committed to confederation. He termed this as a prerequisite unless the two peoples see otherwise.

He said that the Palestinians are heading toward a transition period, which will begin directly with the withdrawal from Gaza and Jericho, providing that the final solution commences two years after the beginning of the first phase, which is the transition period of the entire West Bank.

Concerning refugees, Abu-Mazin said: It is not true that the agreement has ignored their issue. He said that their issue will be discussed at the end of the second year.

Replying to a question on the Palestinian opposition, 'Abbas said: The Palestinian opposition was there before the Madrid conference. It rejects negotiations, so, it is natural for this opposition to reject the results of these negotiations. We will continue to deal with the opposition even in Gaza and Jericho. This opposition will continue to be within the PLO frameworks. The PLO leadership accepts all opinions, and here lies the Palestinian democracy.

## Qaddumi Refuses To Sign Gaza-Jericho Accord

*NC0809184493 London MBC Television in Arabic GMT 93*

[Mahir 'Abd-al-Rahman dispatch from Tunis]

[Text] Palestinian President 'Arafat is preparing for a new sharp confrontation within the PLO Executive Committee in connection with the Gaza-Jericho First agreement. The committee will then announce whether it will approve or reject the agreement.

An official Palestinian source in Tunis told MBC that 14 out of the 18 PLO Executive Committee members will attend the meeting. The representatives of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestinian and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine will not attend. 'Arafat feels sure that he will obtain a majority of Executive Committee votes. He already secured the approval of the Fatah Central Committee, but this happened after a heated debate during which several objectors withdrew from the meeting.

Faruq Qaddumi, PLO Executive Committee member and head of the PLO Political Department, who earlier criticized the Gaza-Jericho agreement, has maintained his hardline position, although he accompanied the Palestinian president on an Arab tour designed to advocate and explain the agreement.

Abu-al-Lutf [Qaddumi] had been assumed to be the candidate to sign the Gaza-Jericho agreement. However, he told MBC today that he will not sign the agreement because it is a partial agreement and should be signed by the delegation that carried out the negotiations.

## PLO's al-Hut Discusses Opposition to Gaza-Jericho Plan

*JN0909111693 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1940 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Interview with Shafiq al-Hut, PLO Executive Committee member and PLO representative in Lebanon, by radio correspondent Antoine Constantine carried within the "Today's Guest" feature in Beirut; date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Constantine] Mr. Shafiq al-Hut, are you still the representative of the PLO in Lebanon, and can we today discuss with you [words indistinct]?

[Al-Hut] Until now, I can say yes, I am the PLO representative. I believe that the reason you ask such a question is because you feel that the PLO will undergo some kind of change in its structure, and in its objectives in exchange for Israel's recognition of it. I announced yesterday and I repeat today that the moment mutual recognition takes place between the PLO and Israel, if this [words indistinct] in our political program, it means that the organization is no longer the one in whose establishment I contributed and under whose banner I have worked for some 30 years [words indistinct] PLO representative.

[Constantine] Does your objection focus on the change of [word indistinct] in the organization, or to the agreement that will be signed between Israel and the PLO, because the conclusion of the agreement will bring about radical changes in the structure and configuration of the PLO?

[Al-Hut] Actually, the two issues are linked. Mutual recognition paves the way to the signing of the agreement in the name of the PLO [words indistinct] Palestinian legitimacy, given that the PLO is the Palestinian people's legitimate and sole representative. Of course, I and many of my colleagues in the PLO, as well as many Palestinians, are divided over this plan. I am against this plan and have many reservations about it. I view it as as a leap into the unknown that will prevent the realization of the minimum national aspirations of the Palestinian people, that is, their right to self-determination, and sovereignty over the Palestinian territory that remains [words indistinct]

[Constantine] Can you enumerate some of the plan's negative points?

[Al-Hut] There are 14 articles. I assure you that I found myself objecting to these 14 points, starting from the preamble, which states that the signatory is the Palestinian people's representative. The mention of the Palestinian people appears only in this preamble which announces that we, the representatives of the Palestinian people have agreed on the following. Then it starts from one, two, up to Article 14. After I read the 14 articles, I found that we have given up our right as a people, and subsequently, we do not represent this people. We said: We, the representative of the Palestinian people [words indistinct] are no longer a people who have rights; the right to self-determination, and the right to establish an independent state to which the Palestinian who resides on the soil and the Palestinian in diaspora will belong.

[Constantine] Mr. Shafiq al-Hut, do you believe the Gaza-Jericho plan, which you oppose, is a definitive agreement in terms of its objectives and structure, or is it a stage as the PLO says?

[Al-Hut] This is a question to be answered by the Palestinian leadership. When we asked such a question, we did not receive a convincing reply on whether this plan or agreement is a deal within the framework of a comprehensive agreement? If this is so, then what is the content of this comprehensive agreement? Is there something that guarantees that we will attain our objectives of the repatriation of the refugees and establishment of our state on our territories that were occupied in 1967? There are no guarantees. On the contrary, there are provisions in the agreement that make me apprehensive about the future of Jerusalem, about the future of the Palestinian refugees who live in the diaspora, and about the future of the rest of the West Bank. Will the settlement activities stop, settlement activities which expand at the expense of the West Bank? These main reasons, the main titles that can make us say yes or no are ambiguous. There is nothing in the agreement that binds Israel to carry out withdrawal in accordance with Resolution 242?

[Constantine] What is the alternative. You oppose 'Arafat's step and view it as a step into the unknown. What is the alternative, and who can offer such an alternative?

[Al-Hut] In the beginning, I believed that having agreed to the negotiations process, the Palestinian leadership, if the appropriate conditions were made available, the most important being uniting the Palestinian house, in coordination with the Arab countries could attain a political agreement that would be by far better than the Gaza-Jericho First plan.

Unfortunately, Yasir 'Arafat and his group have made us face a catastrophe by approving such a plan. This makes me believe that the internal opposition is no longer useful. The Executive Committee is empty. The PLO Central Council and the Palestine National Council will not convene. When this agreement is implemented, it will place us before a new stage.

I believe that the Palestinians should review their assessment of the whole previous period.

[Constantine] [question indistinct].

[Al-Hut] That is the militant period for which all of us—whether we are with or against 'Arafat—are responsible. We should review our strategies, our structures, and our priorities. We should also search for the means that must be adopted to stop the continuous deterioration, or at least, to continue the struggle in order to achieve our nationalm unity.

[Constantine] While people are waiting, who will shoulder the burdens of this waiting? [words indistinct]

[Al-Hut] Regrettably, I believe that the first person in charge in the PLO is responsible for this. We will pass through a stage of chaos and fragmentation. This means that the situation is imposed on us, because Yasir 'Arafat will leave this structure, which is called the PLO, deserted and destroyed. The cadres of the PLO will be left alone to find their own way of survival. We need time so that facts will be known and the picture will become clearer in order to know how to establish the required opposition. I would like to say that the opposition, in its present form, cannot prevent the peddling of the draft agreement.

[Constantine] How can we guarantee that during this time, which will last 10 or 20 years, settling plans or collective depopulation will not be implemented, particularly since, during the meeting of the (?10) Palestine National Council members in Beirut, you warned against these two things? What will prevent settling Palestinians [in Lebanon] and depopulation?

[Al-Hut] Nothing will guarantee this. We opposed this plan in order to maintain the minimum level of our national unity. We wanted to sit down together and ask: What will be the future of the Palestinians in the diaspora? And how are we going to deal with the repercussions that would be produced by such an agreement on our brothers in the diaspora? Brother Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] did not give a chance. Those working in the PLO organs and in embassies in Europe and elsewhere do not know what they will do tomorrow. An ambassador in one of the capitals—and I do not want to name him, because I do not want to embarrass him—told me that he might be forced to publish an announcement in newspapers urging the Palestinian community in that country to support the PLO employees in that capital for one or two months in terms of their salaries. It is as if we were on the eve of 1948 when we traveled on board ships, mounted animals, and wandered through the Arab world. We are before another journey in the wilderness. This alert historical leadership should not have prepared the liquidation of this stage without having looked toward the unknown future. I believe that Yasir 'Arafat will be responsible—before God and history—for his decision.

## 'Arafat Comments on Autonomy Plan, Final Status

*NC0809212393 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2026 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Text] Cairo, 8 Sep (MENA)—Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat has emphasized that the Gaza-Jericho agreement is not a solution or settlement but a step on the way. He announced: We went to Madrid to agree on the form of autonomy during a transitional period and we have now attained an agreement on Gaza and Jericho and an Israeli withdrawal. This means that we will attain a final settlement and are now at the beginning of a stage-by-stage solution.

In an exclusive interview with the newspaper AL-JUMHURIYAH to be published on 9 September, 'Arafat said that the agreement is not a Gaza-Jericho agreement but a declaration of principles. He explained that the Gaza-Jericho agreement comes in the declaration's 27th article.

He added that the declaration proclaims the principles of autonomy in the occupied territories according to which Israel will make a full withdrawal from Gaza and Jericho and a Palestinian national authority will be established there. He explained that at the same time, an autonomous authority will be established in the remaining Palestinian territories. Negotiations over the fate of these territories will begin during the third year of autonomy.

President 'Arafat explained that it is possible for the discussion of the territories' final status to begin before the third year. He noted that this discussion will lead to independence and later to Palestinian-Jordanian confederation in line with the Palestine National Council's pertinent resolution and in accordance with the Palestinian and Jordanian nations' free and natural choice.

Asked if the Gaza-Jericho option is full autonomy or limited local administration, the Palestinian president explained that the autonomy in the other territories will be that of a transitional Palestinian self-government but in Gaza and Jericho there will be Palestinian full national authority.

On whether the Israeli forces will withdraw from the occupied territories or simply redeploy in them, 'Arafat said: In connection with Gaza and Jericho, there will be an Israeli withdrawal. In the remaining occupied territories, which will come under autonomy, there will be a redeployment of the Israeli forces so that they will be far from the towns, villages, refugee camps, and main roads.

Commenting on the choice of Jericho to be included in the agreement along with Gaza and in response to the remark that the Israelis, notably Rabin, chose it because, according to the Torah, it is accursed, 'Arafat said: This is wrong. Although Rabin said it is accursed, the two chief Israeli rabbis objected to this description.

'Arafat continued: In general, we chose Jericho because it is adjacent to Jordanian territory just as Gaza is adjacent to Egyptian territory. In this way we will have an Arab artery in both directions.

The Palestinian president pointed out that many obstacles remain and they are subject to discussion. He said many intermediaries are intervening to overcome these obstacles.

In answer to a question about the Palestinian leadership's preparations to administer Gaza and Jericho and whether the Palestinian citizens will sense an improvement or a change under Palestinian rule, particularly with regard to the economy, 'Arafat announced that the Palestinian leadership is fully prepared to shoulder the responsibility. He did point out, however, that the economic situation might be difficult for many reasons.

He said Gaza is hungry and the international community must shoulder its responsibility, noting that the Arab brothers are shouldering theirs. He also pointed out that he spoke with rich Palestinians and they pledged to shoulder their responsibilities.

Concerning the country's points of entry and exit, by land, sea, and air and whether the Palestinians will supervise them, 'Arafat said that travelers arriving from Egypt to Gaza by land or from Jordan to Jericho by land will pass through Palestinian entry points. The same will happen in the case of those arriving in Gaza by sea. Those coming by air will land at Gaza or Jericho airports.

'Arafat affirmed that entering Palestinian territory will require a visa just like a Palestinian state. He said they will be Palestinian territories ruled by Palestinian authorities under international presence.

The Palestinian president affirmed that elections will be supervised by the Palestinian police under international auspices.

We Palestinians have many fears. That is why we have upheld the principle of security for all, both Palestinians and Israelis, 'Arafat said. He added that achieving an all-embracing security will require a set of measures, primarily the deployment of a Palestinian police force in all the Palestinian territories, as well as in Gaza and Jericho, in which other forces will come from abroad to be in charge of Palestinian national security.

Touching on the issue of Jerusalem and the Israeli officials' emphasis that it is Israel's capital and will not be discussed, 'Arafat explained that Jerusalem's inhabitants will participate in the elections, both by voting and running, and will be involved in the Palestinian institutions and in running religious places. As for the Israeli officials' remarks, 'Arafat said: If Jerusalem represents a red line for the Israelis, we as well have a Palestinian red line, and so do the Arabs, Muslims, and Christians.

Commenting on the stand adopted by the Gulf Cooperation Council and its welcoming of the Palestinian-Israeli agreement, 'Arafat said the Gulf stand is very important. He described the stand as noble, thanking the Gulf states for this principled and dedicated stand, particularly the stress on the final solution and Jerusalem.

## Gives Background on Agreement

*NC0709133893 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1249 GMT 7 Sep 93*

[Text] Cairo, 7 Sep (MENA)—Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat has announced that the date for signing the declaration for the preliminary agreement between the PLO and Israel will be fixed by the cosponsors of the international peace conference, the United States and Russia.

In statements to chief editors of Egyptian newspapers, 'Arafat said the foreign ministers of the two sides will probably sign the agreement and its four addenda.

The Palestinian president stressed that he rejects the use of assassination threats because of differences in opinion, but he believes in democracy and accepts the opinion of the majority.

He recalled that for years, he often said he would be happy to find a place in the sun for his Palestinian people. He said this is his prime interest now, more than anything else.

The Palestinian president said that after signing the Palestinian-Israeli agreement, he will have two headquarters, one, permanent, in Jericho and the other, temporary, in Gaza. He pointed out that his choice of Jericho as the permanent headquarters is based on its proximity to the Palestinians inside the occupied territories, despite its being a small city of no more than 20,000 residents.

The Palestinian president referred to the difficulty of the talks during the past months. He said that serious negotiations began in Norway last May. The Norwegian foreign minister, who was previously defense minister, paved the way for these talks. "When he was minister of defense," 'Arafat added, they became friends—ever since the PLO guaranteed the security of the Norwegian forces participating in the peacekeeping force in Lebanon. 'Arafat affirmed that it was Israel that wanted the negotiations to be secret, while the PLO wanted them to be held publicly.

He said the most difficult point in the agreement was Jerusalem and that it was agreed its Palestinian residents would participate in the election as Palestinians. He added that it was also agreed to accept the principle of negotiating the future of Jerusalem in the negotiations' final stage.

The Palestinian president clarified in his statements to the chief editors of Egyptian newspapers and MENA that the idea of linking Gaza with Jericho was proposed for the first time in Ismailia. He said the Israelis were discussing getting rid of Gaza. He urged President Husni Mubarak to intervene so that withdrawal would take place from both Gaza and Jericho and so that the Palestinian territories would not be divided and the unity of Palestinian territory could be guaranteed.

'Arafat added that the beginning of the breakthrough came when Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin responded saying Resolution 242 applies to the Palestinian territories just as it does to the rest of the Arab territories. Then, negotiations on Jericho started. He said the Israelis were discussing the Jericho subdistrict, while we meant the Jericho region all of whose residents the Israelis expelled in 1967.

The Palestinian president said the importance of the Gaza-Jericho agreement lies in recording a precedent on the implementation of full withdrawal from part of the Palestinian territories.

### Urges Residents To Support Accord

*LD0809192493 Algiers Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1702 GMT 8 Sep 93*

["Text" of message from PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat "to the masses of our Palestinian people inside the Palestinian occupied territories"; place and date of issue not given; read by announcer]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. [passage omitted] O masses of our heroic people; O beloved brothers and sisters, O steadfast people in the land of holy steadfastness: I greet you from the bottom of my heart and salute you warmly, appreciating your nationalist and struggling devotion and your steadfastness on the blessed land of Palestine, the land of revealed religions. This is the land from which our noble Arab messenger Muhammad—may God's prayers, peace, and benediction be upon him—made his flight to heaven and in which Christ—may peace be upon him—was born.

I also highly appreciate your great support for the PLO, the sole and legitimate representative of our Palestinian people, and your attachment to the decisions which have been made by your leadership in order to bring about the sought after just peace, the peace of the brave, which would secure an end to the Israeli occupation of our territories and our holy places, and would guarantee that our people can regain the land of its independent state, with Jerusalem as its capital, and exercise their national and political rights to freedom and independence. [passage omitted]

O my kin and beloved ones, we are today about to enter an important historical turning point in the life of our people and in the fate of the region as a whole in a bid to achieve a just and lasting peace for our children and our people, ending all sorts of repression, suppression, and occupation. Such a just peace, however, requires that we all display more courage and farsightedness than ever before in order to surmount the difficulties facing the peace and negotiation process and in order to be able to bolster the pillars of such a peace.

We have continually stressed that a just and lasting peace in the Middle East can only be a Palestinian peace and that it cannot be achieved by bypassing the political national rights of our Palestinian people, especially its right to self-determination and the setting up of its independent state, on the way to the achievement of a confederal union with sister Jordan, in accordance with the free voluntary choice of the two fraternal peoples.

The agreement on the declaration of principles between us and the Israeli side came to include a complete Israeli withdrawal from the Gaza Strip and the Jericho region as part of the disengagement within the framework of a general agreement on the transitional phase of the setting of an interim Palestinian self-government and the final solution, which will witness an end to the Israeli occupation and the recovery and exercise by our people of its firm national rights, including its right to independence and national sovereignty, in implementation of the relevant resolutions of international law, and in particular UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338.

At this historic turning point in our people's just struggle, we are all called upon to work with patience, steadiness, belief, and confidence to consolidate and defend the national unity of our people, its instrument for the achievement of victory, and attain its lofty national objectives. This is the Palestinian democracy of which we are proud of, and of which we boast. It is shield that protects the continuation of this solid national unity, which allows for diversity of views within the framework of Palestinian legitimacy and the independent national decision that our people, strugglers, and revolutionaries have protected with their blood, sweat, and effort.

We stretch out our hands to all brothers and sisters and to all organizations, forces, and patriotic active forces among our people in order that we may cooperate together, shoulder our responsibilities together, and walk together until we achieve all of our people's aspirations and objectives. [passage omitted]

To all my brothers and sisters and loved ones in and outside the dear homeland, to my beloved female and male strugglers in detention centers, to all the blessed people who are being pursued, to every child and woman, to all old people and men, to my valiant injured brothers, to all those people standing fast and patient in the land of holy steadfastness, to all strugglers standing fast in all positions of the revolution in and outside the homeland: I send to you all my greetings and love and shake your hands. We will meet, God willing, in our dear homeland. I would like to stress to you that the dawn of freedom will break and the sun of independence will shine throughout our dear country.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate, we want to raise up those who were downtrodden on earth and make them imams and heirs and provide for them on earth. [passage omitted]

Together until victory, until victory, until victory!

### Sources Say Outside Support 'Not Enough'

*NC0709140793 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1254 GMT 7 Sep 93*

[Text] Tunis, 7 Sep (MENA)—Informed Palestinian sources here said today the wide Arab support Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat has secured for the Gaza-Jericho agreement in the last few days is not enough unless 'Arafat wins similar backing from the Palestinians themselves.

The sources affirmed that efforts to be exerted in the coming days will make many opposing Palestinian factions and personalities retreat from their current stands on the agreement.

Whether the Palestine National Council [PNC] will be called to session to discuss and endorse the provisions of the agreement or whether the powers delegated by the PNC are enough will be decided during the PLO Executive Committee meeting due to be held later this week. These powers stipulate that a national Palestinian authority should be established over any liberated or evacuated territory.

### Fatah Cadres in Back Support PLO-Israel Agreement

*JN0909101393 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 9 Sep 93 p 22*

[Text] A group of Fatah cadres in Jordan met in Amman yesterday morning to discuss the details of the Gaza-Jericho draft agreement and listen to the opposition opinion. The majority of the conferees announced their support for the Israeli-Palestinian agreement and expressed their adherence to the Palestinian leadership and the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

The conferees told AL-DUSTUR they are members of the committees directly supervising the intifadah. They carefully studied the agreement and supported the Fatah Central Committee decisions and all that was included in its statement. They said they will promote the [Palestinian] decision and contribute to creating a favorable public opinion aware of its positive points.

### PFLP-GC's Jibril Reiterates 'Arafat Death Threat

*NC0909132793 Paris AFP in English 1311 GMT 9 Sep 93*

[Text] Damascus, Sept 9 (AFP)—Yasir 'Arafat will not live long if he pushes through his autonomy accord with Israel, a radical Palestinian leader warned here Thursday [9 September].

"The Palestinian people will not allow Yasir 'Arafat to stay alive," said Ahmad Jibril, head of the Damascus-based Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command.

Jibril told AFP he was "certain that 'Arafat will pay the price for accepting the accord" on Palestinian autonomy starting in the Gaza Strip and West Bank town of Jericho.

"I am sure that a Palestinian child will judge him for his actions against the Palestinian cause," said the leader of the Damascus-based group which is not a member of the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

Jibril had already threatened Arafat's life when the autonomy accord with Israel was announced last month.

Israel wants the accord, which was clinched in secret talks in Norway between the PLO and Jewish state, signed next week at the Middle East peace talks in Washington.

### No Strike Leaflet Issued by Intifadah Leadership

*NC0809145793 Paris AFP in English 1430 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Report by Hamdi Farraj]

[Text] Jerusalem, Sept 8 (AFP)—For the first time since the intifadah erupted six years ago the underground leadership has failed to issue instructions to Palestinians for the pursuit of the uprising.

At the start of every month since December 1987, the "unified leadership" has produced a bulletin of events and strikes to protest Israeli occupation. But with Israel and the Palestine Liberation Organisation expected to sign a historic autonomy agreement next week, no leaflet has hit the streets for the traditional strike on the 9th of the month marking the start of the intifadah. And the failure to put out the leaflet has led to questions about whether the leadership itself has broken up over the controversial PLO agreement.

The leadership unites members of Fatah, the main PLO group, and the Palestinian communist party, which both support the peace deal, with the Popular and Democratic fronts for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP and DFLP), which bitterly oppose it.

According to Palestinian activists who have served time in jail as members of the clandestine leadership, the group is in danger of collapse. 'Ata al-Qimri, who spent nine months in prison as a PFLP representative in the leadership, told AFP: "The leaflet will not appear this month.

"It is quite highly possible that the united leadership has been dissolved without any announcement being made."

In the first days of August, the leaflet appeared as normal calling for the usual half a dozen strikes and urging the population to pursue resistance to the occupation during the 69th month of intifadah.

But popular support had waned, particularly on the West Bank, with mass protests rarely seen since the first years of intifadah.

"The role and activities of the leadership have been paralysed and the delay in the leaflet is the beginning of the end," said Sim'an Khuri, who was jailed for more than three years as a DFLP representative on the leadership.

But Hasan 'Abd-Rabbuh, a former Fatah man on the leadership, said, "The communique has to come out because the occupation is not over."

"No decision has been taken by the PLO to dissolve the unified leadership," he stressed.

Whether the leaders can agree at the last minute to call for the strike on Thursday [9 September] or not they have no doubt that Palestinians will observe a strike anyway. Strikes have become such a regular feature of life in the territories that most people use them as a day off and work around the stoppage days.

### PLO Official Describes Future Security Force

*NC0809183793 Paris AFP in English 1723 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Report by Saad Hattar]

[Text] Amman, Sept 8 (AFP)—The Palestine Liberation Organization wants security forces which will control autonomous zones in the Gaza Strip and Jericho to be armed like ground forces worldwide, a PLO official said on Wednesday [8 September].

"The Palestine Liberation Army (PLA), scattered in Arab countries, is to become a 'National Security Force' within the framework of the self-rule accord on the Gaza Strip and Jericho (West Bank)," the official, who requested anonymity, told AFP.

"These forces would be equipped with light weapons, machine guns and short-range cannons," he added.

He said the force should have the "full gear used by ground forces worldwide, except for tanks and jet fighters."

Under the self-rule arrangement, PLA units deployed in Jordan—estimated at roughly 2,000 men—would redeploy in Jericho while units stationed in Egypt, Sudan and Yemen would move to the Gaza Strip.

Iraq-based troops would either deploy in Jericho or in Gaza.

The West Bank, including Jericho, had been part of Jordan from 1950 until 1967, when it fell under Israeli occupation. Gaza had been under Egyptian rule.

The official said there were roughly around 30,000, lightly-geared PLA troops throughout the Arab world. He said nearly 10 percent of the troops would become an active police force.

The PLA was formed by Arab League decree in 1964. It is administered by the PLO but the troops have been integrated in the armies of their host countries. Currently the PLA troops carry out escort missions for PLO officials.

Under the auspices of the Jordanian police, the PLA initiated three months ago training programs in which cadets receive "special training and martial arts exercises," the official said.

He said 'Arafat inaugurated the graduation ceremony of the first batch of 800 trainees during his visit last week to Jordan. The courses are to continue until the PLA troops move on "to Palestinian soil."

The Jordanian police also trained 35 policemen from the Israeli- occupied territories to become bodyguards. They are now ready to protect Palestinian officials and guard the "Orient House" in East Jerusalem—the headquarters of the Palestinian negotiating team at the Arab-Israeli peace talks.

The military attache of the Palestinian office in Jordan, 'Ali Budaywi, told AFP that the new force will be entrusted with "maintaining order and security and ensuring that Palestinians can live in peace like the rest of the world."

On Tuesday, Israeli Premier Yitzhaq Rabin said he expected Palestinians to succeed more than Israelis in maintaining order in the sprawling, highly-populous Gaza Strip.

The agreement struck between Israel and the PLO stipulates that internal security would be in the hands of a Palestinian interim-authority, while external security affairs would remain with Israel.

### PLO Reportedly Sells Property, Assets in Lebanon

*NC0809124493 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1109 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Excerpt] Beirut, 8 Sep (MENA)—Palestinian sources in Beirut have stated that Colonel 'Ala' al-Afandi, a former commander of the Joint Palestinian Forces in Lebanon, left for Tunis yesterday carrying an initial list of the Palestinian officers, cadres, and elements who will participate in the Palestinian police and national guard that will maintain security in Gaza and Jericho following the signing of the Palestinian-Israeli agreement and the establishment of Palestinian self-rule there.

The sources said al-Afandi chose his elements from among those who were born in Gaza and the West Bank and who became refugees in 1967. The sources did not mention how many were picked as the first group to go.

The sources revealed that Colonel al-Afandi has sold his private property and some of the properties and assets of the Fatah movement and PLO in south Lebanon prior to liquidating Palestinian activity in these areas. The sale included apartments, land, factories, and shares in commercial companies. [passage omitted]

### 189 Deportees Allowed To Leave Marj al-Zuhur Camp

*NC0909061693 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 9 Sep 93*

[Text] According to reports from southern Lebanon, 189 Palestinian deportees this morning traveled from the Marj al-Zuhur Camp to the Zummarayya crossing point on their way to the security zone. Every deportee carried one suitcase and his identity documents. A small truck and a donkey carried the luggage of the deportees to the nearest point at the Zummarayya crossing. The deportees stopped approximately 500 meters from the Zummarayya crossing point to say their morning prayers before continuing their journey.

### Many To Be Jailed

*NC0909102793 Shanayh Voice of the Mountain in Arabic 0900 GMT 9 Sep 93*

[Text] The 189 Palestinian deportees this morning left Marj al-Zuhur for their homeland via the Zummarayya crossing point. Israeli buses that were waiting for them at the crossing point transported them.

Citing an Israeli military source, AFP reported that the deportees allowed back home will be detained for 96 hours in the occupied land and that the majority of them are wanted and will remain in jail for several months or years.

Dr. 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Rantisi, spokesman for the deportees, told the Voice of the Mountain that the return of our brothers today is the fruit of their steadfastness and patience in this desolate place. At last they achieved what they wanted. Had it not been for this steadfastness they would have remained here and thousands of our people would have been deported. They return with heads raised, he said, enjoying the victory they scored despite the grudge of our nation's enemies.

Al-Rantisi said: I request the deportees to stand by their people who reject the humiliating settlement that will sweep away all the Palestinian people's achievements. I advise them to stop bloodshed among the Palestinian people. I say to them: Be advocates of unity and not division.

Al-Rantisi said that the Red Cross will visit the camp tomorrow to attend to sick deportees and provide supplies and medicine.

### Eight Choose To Remain

*NC0909130193 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1115 GMT 9 Sep 93*

[Excerpt] Dr. 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Rantisi, spokesman for the Palestinian deportees in south Lebanon, has said that eight of the deportees allowed by Israel to return decided to stay in Marj al-Zuhur camp. He said they had been serving long prison terms before their deportation to southern Lebanon. [passage omitted]

## Egypt

### Musa on Peace Talks Progress on Other Tracks

*NC0809204093 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1946 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Text] Cairo, 8 Sep (MENA)—Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa has asserted that Egypt is working hard to promote progress on all the Arab-Israeli negotiating tracks, noting that this will be done on the basis of not abandoning territorial and other rights or the commitment to Arab and international constants.

In an interview with the newspaper AL-AHRAM to be published on 9 September, the foreign minister said that attempts are being made to reach agreements on the various negotiating tracks similar to the Palestinian-Israeli declaration of principles.

Musa pointed out that according to President Husni Mubarak's instructions there will be minimum requirements beyond which there can be no concessions in any declaration of principles. He also said that Egypt is willing to play a role in implementing the Palestinian-Israeli agreement if the two sides ask it to do so.

Musa said the term "Gaza-Jericho" is insufficient to describe the Palestinian-Israeli agreement, which is a declaration of principles, like the ones we are trying to reach on the other tracks. He explained that the plans for Gaza and Jericho are just the beginning.

The foreign minister commented on Egypt's role in ensuring the success of the agreement, saying that Egyptian diplomatic efforts sought to attain the best possible framework for an Israeli-Palestinian declaration of principles. He said these efforts were made because the Palestinian party, in our view, was the weakest Arab party and needed constant support.

He explained that Egypt learned of the secret Palestinian-Israeli talks in Oslo but did not intervene in them until it was asked to do so. It carried out this role, he explained, because it is a Middle Eastern regional power, the largest Arab country, and the party with prior experience in negotiating with the Israelis.

Asked if Egypt will have a future role in implementing the Palestinian-Israeli agreement, Musa said: If the two parties request this, we will look into the matter.

Asked if the other negotiating Arab parties have requested Egyptian assistance, the foreign minister explained that all the negotiating tracks are proceeding on the understanding of direct discussions between the concerned parties. He said Egypt will do its utmost to contribute to success on the other tracks whenever this is deemed necessary and when it is asked to do so. He said Egypt will be guided by two conditions: First, commitment to the land-for-peace principle, and second, adherence to Arab constants to which Egypt is committed and international constants to which it is bound. He pointed out the necessity of full coordination between both sets of constants.

Asked if a contradiction will arise between Israel's recognition of Yasir 'Arafat as PLO chairman only and between some other countries' recognition of him as president of the state of Palestine, Musa said: There is a minimum recognized by everyone and this is that the PLO is the Palestinian people's representative.

### Israeli, Palestinian Envoys Discuss Peace Process

*NC0909101093 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0702 GMT 9 Sep 93*

[Text] Cairo, 9 Sep (MENA)—Palestinian Ambassador in Cairo Sa'id Kamal has stated that Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat's concern to notify Egypt of the documents and texts of Oslo's secret negotiations to study and give its views stems from the Palestinian people's desire for support from Egypt led by President Mubarak, as this is the primary guarantee for the Palestinian people.

In a statement to today's edition of the newspaper AL-AHRAM, Kamal said that Egypt is currently exerting efforts to convince the Israeli party to overcome the hurdles of mutual recognition.

In a statement to AL-AHRAM, Israeli Ambassador in Cairo David Sultan stressed the genuine nature of the Egyptian role, noting that since he came to power Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin was eager to first visit Egypt in July 1992, where he unequivocally requested that President Mubarak help facilitate the peace process. Both the Palestinian and Israeli ambassadors agreed that Egypt's role in boosting the Oslo negotiations was positive.

Answering a question on the permanent headquarters of the Palestinian authority, Kamal said that the Palestinians will not relinquish Jerusalem as the capital of their state, noting that Gaza and Jericho will be a temporary headquarters until Israel withdraws from all West Bank territories and Gaza.

Kamal, who the paper describes as the liaison officer between Cairo and Oslo during the secret negotiations, warned of the possibility that certain countries may move their embassies from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. He said that such a measure would violate the Israeli commitment itself, noting that everything should wait until a final settlement on Jerusalem is reached during the transitional phase. He called for an Arab-international campaign to prevent perpetuating Jerusalem as the capital of Israel.

Israeli Ambassador Sultan said that what is required for mutual recognition between Israel and the PLO is axioms and not conditions. He called for the need for an official declaration by the PLO leadership in return for a similar declaration by Rabin. He noted the possibility that the negotiating Palestinian delegation led by Faysal al-Husayni can sign the Palestinian-Israeli agreement should the two parties fail to reach an agreement on recognition.

On the possibility of new developments on the other tracks of the negotiations, Sultan pointed out that Israel has no problems with Jordan, which requested postponing signing the agreement until progress is made on the Palestinian track.

Regarding Syria, Sultan said that Israel declared that Security Council Resolution 242 applies to negotiations with Syria, noting Rabin's statement that the depth of peace is synonymous to the depth of withdrawal.

On the Israeli military presence in Gaza and Jericho, Sultan said that his country does not need a huge number of troops in populated areas and that the rest of the forces will be redeployed away from these areas because internal security will be in the hands of the Palestinians. He said that Israel does not intend to create situations that the Palestinian authority cannot control and that it wants a strong Palestinian authority with jurisdiction.

On the PLO's future, Kamal said that it is the party that is recognized by the Untied States and other countries of the world. It will remain, he said, a comprehensive national framework and will not turn into a political party in the near future. He expressed his belief that the fate of the PLO will be determined at the end of the final phase.

On the Palestine Liberation Army, Kamal noted that it will be used to help in keeping law and order within the framework of the gradual building of an independent national Palestinian entity. He noted that the fate of the post of the president of the state of Palestine will also be determined in light of the final position.

### Mubarak, al-Asad Confer by Phone on Peace Talks

*NC0909130593 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1206 GMT 9 Sep 93*

[Text] Cairo, 9 Sep (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak contacted Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad by telephone this afternoon and exchanged views on the developments in the Middle East peace negotiations in Washington.

### Mubarak, Libya's al-Qadhdhafi Confer on Issues

*NC0909133293 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1140 GMT 9 Sep 93*

[Text] Cairo, 9 Sep (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak this afternoon received a telephone call from Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution.

During the telephone call, they exchanged viewpoints on a number of Arab issues and current international contacts regarding issues of mutual interest.

### Musa Comments on Caucasus Conflict, South Africa

*NC0809143993 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1345 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Excerpt] Cairo, 8 Sep (MENA)—[Passage omitted] Regarding Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad's visit to Egypt, Musa said the date of the visit has not been set yet.

Commenting on Armenia's invasion of Azerbaijan, Musa said Egypt is against any occupation or aggression against any state. There should be a cease-fire and the forces should return to their original positions. The occupation and aggression should not continue.

Regarding the postponement by the leaders of the African national movements in South Africa of their visit to Egypt, Musa said this postponement was due to the agreement that was reached yesterday on the formation of a transitional council in South Africa. He said the leaders of the liberation movements were busy in the discussions that took place in this regard, adding that the visit will take place in November.

### Sudan's Abu-Salih Attacks U.S. Terrorism Decision

*NC0809142093 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1310 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Text] Cairo, 8 Sep (MENA)—Sudanese Foreign Minister Dr. Husayn Sulayman Abu-Salih has affirmed that he has visited Cairo and met President Husni Mubarak because of Egypt's importance in the region and the world since Mubarak is also the president of the OAU.

Abu-Salih said in a news conference today that President Mubarak showed great interest in Sudan and anything that might affect its future. He promised to exert his efforts in this regard. The Sudanese foreign minister affirmed that his country supports the Palestinian-Israeli agreement on Gaza and Jericho.

Abu-Salih once again attacked the U.S. decision to put Sudan on the list of countries harboring terrorism. He described the decision as unfair and baseless, with no facts or evidence to support it. He pointed out that the United States had previously planned to issue this decision, even though there was nothing supporting the allegations against Sudan.

Dr. Abu-Salih said that the U.S. decision was made because Sudan is following an Islamic course that is considered in conflict with the Western ideal. He said there are some parties practicing terrorism, such as Serbia, but it has not been put on the list of countries harboring terrorism. This raises questions and doubts about U.S. credibility.

Abu-Salih denied accusations leveled against his country on the presence of terrorist training camps. He said these camps are for training the popular defense forces from among the Sudanese youth to help the Armed Forces operating in the south of the country against the rebels.

On the coming meeting between the foreign ministers of Egypt and Sudan regarding the Hala'ib problem and bilateral relations, Abu-Salih said that the Egyptian-Sudanese committee will meet in Khartoum in mid-October to discuss this problem.

It is worth noting that the committee met in Cairo in July.

On the negotiations for peace in southern Sudan, Abu-Salih said that despite the military operations of the Sudanese Armed Forces in the south against the rebel forces, his government's option is to exert efforts to establish just and permanent peace through negotiations. He pointed out that the unstable internal conditions in Nigeria highlight the need to transfer the peace talks with the rebel movement to another country away from Nigeria.

On Sudanese-Arab relations, the Sudanese foreign minister affirmed his country's interest in restoring relations with all the Arab countries. He pointed out that Sudan believes Arab fragmentation is dangerous to the whole Arab world.

Abu-Salih stressed his country's support for all Arab initiatives aiming to restore Arab unity.

## Further on Abu-Salih Remarks

*EA0809223093 Khartoum SUNA in English 1730 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Text] Cairo, 8 Sep (SUNA)—Foreign Minister Dr. Husayn Sulayman Abu-Salih said that his present visit to Cairo comes within the framework of the Sudan's efforts to brief the brothers in Egypt on the Sudan's stance concerning the baseless accusation of terrorism, saying that Sudan has never had hostile intention to the United States.

Dr. Abu-Salih said in a press conference he held in the Sudanese Embassy's premises here on Wednesday [8 September] that the written message of the chairman of the Revolution Command Council (RCC) General 'Umar al-Bashir to President Husni Mubarak on the U.S. resolution is prompted by Egypt's standing in the Arab region and the current chairmanship of Mubarak to the organization of African unity (OAU). [agency parenthesis]

He said the visit is not intended for Egyptian mediation, but aimed at enlisting Egyptian support in rebutting the U.S. allegations. He said that the U.S. decision on placement of Sudan on the list of the countries allegedly hosting terrorism reflected double standards and ignored the human rights violations being committed by the Serbian state before the eyes of the international community.

Sudan is against terrorism and the U.S. charge was due to the cultural orientation of the government, the foreign minister said, pointing out that the Islamic orientation is a popular choice that could not be halted by any power in the world. He said that President Mubarak expressed great concern with the Sudan's affairs and pledged to exert utmost efforts to correct situations. Abu- Salih denied that Mubarak or any other Egyptian official had previously accused Sudan of terrorism.

As regards the allegations saying that the IGADD [Inter-Governmental Authority on Drought and Development] meetings were an attempt by Sudan to break its isolation, Abu-Salih affirmed that Sudan is not isolated and it participates and interacts in Arab and African spheres.

Dr. Abu-Salih stressed that the Sudan is abiding by the peaceful negotiations with the rebel movement, adding that peace talks were not held in Nigeria due to internal circumstances in Nigeria.

As regards the Sudanese refugees in Uganda, Abu-Salih said the United Nations should care for them.

He further said the Sudan has started to reactivate its relations with Arab countries. He added that his meeting with the Egyptian foreign minister will be held in the middle of next October in Khartoum.

## U.S. Warnings Abroad Seen Serving Terrorists' Interests

*NC0409103093 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 30 Aug 93 p 8*

["Closeup" column by Salamah Ahmad Salamah: "Their Worry Is Worrying"]

[Text] The U.S. State Department and U.S. embassies in Egypt and other Middle East countries have expressed "deep concern" about possible threats to American interests and nationals. This came as a cold shower on Egypt's efforts to eliminate terrorism, violence, and tension in the country.

It is known that the security measures enjoyed by U.S. interests and embassies, not only in the Middle East but in the whole world, are the strictest and most delicate and sophisticated—second only to those enjoyed by Israeli interests, of course! The United States always takes the necessary precautions to protect its interests and nationals both under normal conditions and under extraordinary circumstances where there are terrorist acts and political unrest.

The hot statements that were issued in Washington and echoed here and there after the indictment of Shaykh 'Umar 'Abd-al-Rahman fearing revenge terrorist attacks against American diplomatic missions and the warnings to American nationals were astonishing. They heat up the situation and entail a flagrant call to expect further terrorist operations. This may prevent tourists from coming to the country and sabotage current attempts to convince the outside world that terrorism in Egypt is under control and on the decline.

The United States has the right to fear reactions in the United States itself to measures and policies adopted by the U.S. authorities; it has the right to revise whatever measures it wants to protect its missions and interests abroad, but provocative exaggeration that spreads an atmosphere of hysteria and horror in other countries lies outside the framework of legitimate caution as it spreads an atmosphere of instability and anxiety. This serves the terrorists and realizes their objectives of frightening and bullying people.

What some American newspapers and magazines have recently published in this regard has the same effect as the recent statements made by the U.S. State Department and repeated by its embassies. They suggest that unrest is continuing in Egypt and that terrorism is spreading in a frightening way. This kind of worry by "the American friend" is really worrying.

### Dispute With U.S. Over Arms Manufacturing Alleged

*NC0809192393 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 1 Sep 93 p 1*

[Text] A new dispute has broken out between the government and the United States, resulting in a strong and vehement Egyptian protest that has taken several forms.

Security reports have revealed that the United States has held contacts with some European states with a view to pressuring them to limit their cooperation with Egypt in the field of military industrialization. The reports say the United States has put pressure on France, some Eastern European countries, and Britain, asking them to put controls on joint military industrialization with Egypt, especially in the field of air defense weapons. The United States demanded that these states check with it before beginning any cooperation in this field.

The reports indicate that the United States believes the manufacture of weapons in Egypt—such as the armored vehicle Fahd, the 'Ayn al-Saqr [Hawkeye] missile, the new radar system, and the mine-removal system—exceeds the limits agreed upon.

These U.S. protests and attempts have caused resentment among government and security quarters, resulting in higher contacts to find out the full facts.

### Court Seeks Death Penalty for General's Attackers

*NC0809190993 Paris AFP in English 1830 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Text] Cairo, Sept 8 (AFP)—A military court here on Wednesday [8 September] asked for the death penalty against eight Islamic militants accused of taking part in a bid to kill the president of the high military court in July, legal sources said.

The failed attack against General Ahmad 'Abdallah, who has issued 13 death sentences against Islamic militants in April and May, left a policeman and a passerby dead in Cairo. Two of the assailants were also killed.

The fundamentalists, four of whom are on the run, are accused of membership in an illegal organisation which seeks to overthrow the secular government of President Husni Mubarak.

They are also accused of possession of weapons and explosives as well as the murder of the policeman and a passerby on July 18.

Most of the accused are from Dayrut, in the southern province of Asyut, a hotbed of Muslim fundamentalism.

Their trial, which resumed on Wednesday with testimony from the prosecution, opened on August 23.

Egyptian military courts have issued 25 death sentences against Islamic militants since December 3 and another was issued by the high security court of al-Fayyum, southwest of Cairo.

Fifteen of the sentences have been carried out since June.

### Islamic Militants Suspected in Coptic Christian Killing

*NC0409163993 Paris AFP in English 1519 GMT 4 Sep 93*

[Text] Asyut, Egypt, Sept 4 (AFP)—Gunmen shot dead a Coptic Christian merchant in his store in southern Egypt in what police said Saturday [4 September] could have been an attack carried out by Islamic militants.

The police said they "do not rule out that the al-Jama'ah al-Islamiyah is behind" the attack that killed Sami Shafiq late Friday in the city of Dayrut, 320 kilometers (190 miles) south of Cairo.

The group, which seeks the overthrow of President Husni Mubarak's secular government, has a strong presence in Asyut Province.

Islamic militants have killed more than 30 Coptic Christians since they stepped up a violent campaign in March last year.

## Libya

### Al-Qadhdhafi Addresses GPC on Revolution Anniversary

*LD0209082393 Tripoli Libyan Television Network in Arabic 0926 GMT 1 Sep 93*

[Speech by leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to the extraordinary session of the General People's Congress, GPC, on the occasion of the anniversary of the al-Fatih revolution in Tripoli—live]

[Excerpts] Brothers, please allow me to attend this session—not that I have any constitutional relationship with the General People's Congress, nor do I have jurisdiction—because this session is being held on the occasion of our celebration of the anniversary of the great al-Fatih revolution. [applause]

On this historic day we salute the great Libyan people, who made this historic revolution, and which, without any argument, formed a historic and scientific turning point. Despite machinations, harrassment, and attempts to destroy it by many forces in the world, they knew that something new had taken place in Libya and that it began to have a real effect on them in all corners of the world, despite their machinations.

We salute this great nation, which made this historic event, and we salute the courageous vanguard of its sons who joined the movement of the revolution and boldly said what this people wanted. And they, the vanguard, were victorious. Brothers, we are proud that after the passage of nearly a quarter of a century we are about to enter the 25th year of the revolution. [applause]

We are proud to say that all the claims that a military coup took place in Libya, or officers undertook a movement, or that there was a conspiracy against the king, or a popular coup against the monarchy, or that fascism took power, or al-Qadhdhafi had taken over power, as they said, have been proven wrong. All these claims have been proven to be wrong, and it transpired that no one had arrived in power, that what happened was not a military coup. The record of this historic event confirms that it was a deep-rooted popular revolution. If it was as they had claimed it to be, it would then have ended like other fascist, coup-related, military, or conspiratorial movements. This was not a conspiracy, not a coup. It was a popular revolution and a historic movement, and we are proud that all the claims made against it were wrong. It was challenged by the mightiest antifreedom powers on earth, but these powers have failed.

However, the forces of colonialism and of evil are still challenging it, but they are challenging an unyielding opponent. They are not challenging Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, as they claim, but are challenging a historic event that cannot be successfully confronted by warships, aircraft, iron, wood, or bombs. All these are material objects: Chemicals, wood and iron. History has never proved, and it is not conceivable that civilizational and historic events, and the spiritual mission can be successfully confronted by iron, wood, benzene, chemical products, material objects in the form of fleets and aircraft. These are means that indicate impotence. All these material objects made of the products I have mentioned are bound to become rusty, to be moth-eaten, to deteriorate, to explode and to evaporate.

[Passage omitted] The world must listen carefully. What is taking place in Libya is a historical change that concerns not only Libya. It is the cornerstone of a new civilization and a new era, which humanity has to experience inevitably. It is the era of the masses, the era of all the people and the era of ordinary individuals. What makes our voices sound louder is due to what we see around us, which makes us challenge so loudly. What is taking place around us proves the truthfulness of what we are saying, and of our direction. The dramatic collapses in the world force us to shoulder our international responsibility. A whole era is collapsing. An old world is about to die, announcing its inability to remain, and it lacks the constituents of life because it is based on oppression and exploitation. [passage omitted]

Those who dream of harming the people's authority or the historic international revolution due to their ignorance, backwardness and worthlessness will be rowing against the current, whatever their dreams may be. However, when they—whether a great power or ordinary individuals—are crushed and confronted...[pauses] not because this is a normal thing [sentence as heard]. Even if they are not crushed, they will be committing a desperate act. [passage omitted]

Now the superpowers are confronting the Libyan people and Libya, imposing an embargo and thinking of a siege. After a while the process becomes silly and only the truth will triumph, namely this people cannot be killed by embargo or siege. The message has been set off, and that is: It is like a bullet; nothing will hold it back after it has been fired. This is the outcry of partners, not hired hands; it is a bullet that has been fired. Bring fleets and cruise missiles and tell it to return, but it will not. It will reach every worker in the world. These theses have been set off and, like a bullet, no one can bring them back. People's authority, no democracy without people's congresses—this is a bullet that has been fired, a cry that has been set off in the world. [passage omitted]

About the attempts that are being made against us: We stress to those who are making them that they are helpless and that some day they will judge themselves, if they rise from their graves or if they are alive, and history will rule that they were ridiculous, ignorant and worthless because they were confronting the truth which was imposing itself; that is inevitable. [passage omitted]

Our cry is resounding. Those who oppose us are dead by definition. [applause] At the same time, however, we cannot say that as long as they are inevitably going to be destroyed, their attempts from inside and outside are dead, because there is a truth that imposes itself and triumphs. All we have to do is watch them.

As a person who had a large number of revolutionaries and a larger number of the masses eager to confront the enemy at home and outside, and to clash with and liquidate him....[pauses] What did we see that as? We regard it sport for us. Fighting against them is not fearful; it is like someone involved in a sports match. We know that our values will triumph; consequently, we are not afraid of meeting them.

I will tell you that on a day like this in 1969, the day when my colleagues—officers and men, and there were thousands of ordinary soldiers who took part in the revolution—who carried out the revolution were upset with me because I did not allow them to physically liquidate all the enemies. [sentence as heard] This is the truth. Even now they tell me: You were wrong not to allow us have a massacre on 1 September 1969. Indeed, I prevented it. I prevented it because it would have been of no value; the people surrendered. I wish there was resistance and that all those on the black lists had been liquidated. However, unfortunately or fortunately, there was no resistance. All the fronts collapsed and surrendered. They all put their hands up.

If I accepted the opinion of my colleagues, I think their opinion could have been right. I must say to you: They planned it. The plan was ready on a day like this in 1969. I realized, however, that the situation did not call for the implementation of the plan. The plan was for the physical liquidation of all the officers who were not in the movement. Any officer who had not joined the free officers movement should have been executed in the morning right away. This was the plan.

However, not a single officer was executed. This is because they had surrendered and they joined us. Until now they were saying that that had been a mistake. If we find ourselves to be wrong, you can rectify the mistake. The lists are ready. Everyone must understand this. The lists still exist.

The plan called for all the deputies, ministers, advisers, ambassadors, and the king to be executed on the morning of al-Fatih [1 September]. This is what the plan called for. But when morning came we did not meet any resistance from them. We left them alone. Okay, not executing them might have been right or not right, but until today, some of my colleagues and the new revolutionary force which was born after the al-Fatih, until today they have been saying to me: You are wrong; whether the revolution was white [as heard] or not, it did not need to be white; you are wrong, because this class should have been crushed.

There was a list which called for the execution of all the contractors, brokers, and leading merchants who sucked the blood of the Libyan people, who collaborated with foreign companies, who had been receiving commissions on the livelihood and wealth of the Libyan people, and who had become rich and had divided the land among themselves. The whole country used to be divided among this or that person from Tripoli to Benghazi. Wherever you went there were divisions of land and Europeans. All these were in a book and they should have been executed.

The soldiers, by God, were disappointed, the soldiers and the officers. Each street and each area had been earmarked for carrying out the executions. In the lists was everyone who had taken up a position from the time of gaining the false independence in 1952 and those who had lied to the Libyan people by saying that Libya had become an independent state. On the second day of independence the foreign forces came along and occupied Libya. The people know that they are independent when foreign troops leave a country, not when a country announces its independence and foreign troops occupy the country.

This is clear: American forces were not present when Libya's false independence was announced. When did they come? They came after the independence. The British forces which had been occupying Libya did not leave after independence. They stayed as if nothing had been declared. The Italians—more than 20,000 of them—had occupied Libya in civilian clothes. They were in Libya before and after independence. Why weren't they made to leave after independence, if there was independence? If they said they were independent, what does it mean becoming independent. Becoming independent means becoming independent from foreigners.

My colleagues used to say that everyone who collaborated from the time of the declaration of Libya's false independence had been lying to us by telling us that this country had become independent. He must have helped the foreigners to stay in the country, and anyone who collaborated with them therefore must be killed. I stopped them from implementing this massacre. We later used to say that the revolution was white; the revolution was white. But who can say that this was a good thing?

At the moment there are some who say that this was a mistake; they almost implemented the plan on another occasion. On the night of the raid in 1986, the revolutionary forces—I stopped them at the last minute—had drawn up lists—I will not give any figures—so that as soon as the Americans started to strike at Libya, the revolutionary forces would start the physical liquidation of the forces on the lists.

However, the raid lasted for one minute and was a failure. Their aircraft fell. They announced that the aircraft would not enter Tripoli and Benghazi and must return and throw their bombs into the sea. The campaign had failed. I said to them [the revolutionary forces]: There is no need.

Everyone understands, however, that we are now facing the most powerful forces on earth. America, Britain, and France are the biggest countries on earth now. They are nuclear countries and Christian countries. They do not share our religion. They are not our brothers. We do not have the same blood, religion, or language. We are separated from them by seas of, in fact, blood. We are now reading history.

As working masses and revolutionary forces, we have the right that we can use at any moment. When we stand against these tyrants, we are standing on solid ground. This is not a confrontation with a medium or small country. These are the superpowers which still exist, the three capitalist, Christian, nuclear countries.

We are on a face-to-face confrontation with them. This is not our fault at all. The Lockerbie issue is really an excuse. This is an historic confrontation. At any moment now we are in a state of confrontation. It is not if there is a confrontation; it is a state of confrontation. At any moment the sword will strike. When we exert our power, we exert it with extreme strength. [applause]

There are now laws presented to the Basic People's Congresses which put an end to some things which could be trivial, but at this stage and in the state of confrontation they are not trivial.

Someone spreads a rumor saying that the wanted Libyans will be extradited. Then he tells this one, and this one tells that one and so on. This is a rumor which you might say is ordinary. This is not trivial. If we start from the last one, even if he is the last of 1,000, and work backwards, we will reach its source, its origin. We will find that it originated from such-and-such a foreign embassy, or from a member of the American or British or French intelligence services who infiltrated that place. What do they mean by it?

Those who spread such rumors are firing bullets in our midst, bang bang, and are killing. I wish they had a rifle and went out into the street. These people are firing invisible bullets. Will I forgive these people in this period of confrontation? Never. You will see.

Some bring an Egyptian joke and adapt it to me. Such a joke would go back to the time when 'Abd-al-Nasir was confronting the enemies. It was made up by the intelligence services opposed to Jamal 'Abd-al-Nasir or by the rotten feudal and capitalist class which was against 'Abd-al-Nasir. Then somebody comes along and modifies this joke and adapts it to me. It is a joke to (?make people) laugh. This might seem as a trivial phenomenon. Not at all; it is of great significance. When was it made up? It was made up in Egypt. When? In 'Abd-al-Nasir's time. Whose interests did it serve? It served feudalism, exploitation, and the tripartite aggression. Who made it up? It was made up by the puppet class. It was made up by the foreign intelligence services against Jamal 'Abd-al-Nasir. Why against Jamal 'Abd-al-Nasir? Because Jamal 'Abd-al-Nasir was uniting the Arab nation, liberating Palestine, building socialism and progress, and creating this nation anew. He was the adversary of all the nation's adversaries.

Therefore he became the target of jokes, rumors, bullets, a tripartite aggression, assassination, and a death of heart [failure].

In a situation of confrontation, fooling around is not permissible. The Algerians say: Don't play with the lion's tail. Would anyone go and play with the lion's tail? Let everyone understand that. In a situation of confrontation, the reaction will be severe. During historic and great missions, transformations, and major confrontations such as the present one, the death of 1,000, 5,000, or 1 million people is insignificant and nobody regrets it, ever. Those who do not accept such sacrifices cannot enter this battle and raise their voice, the sentimental ones and the feeble.

You should be as hard on yourselves as you would be on the colonial states. Let everybody hear this and let those present inform the absent. America, Britain, France, Europe, and the satellites are listening. [applause] If anyone believes that power belongs to the people—this is a vast issue—and that everything has become democratic and is in the hands of the people, and that, thank God, there is no longer any decisionmaking [at the top]—obviously by the very nature of democracy there is no decisionmaking—this is democracy, but this is not the right thing. [sentence as heard] [passage omitted]

How stupid can one be when one plots against a historic revolution like this? [passage omitted]

The Libyan people must be respected and should not be oppressed. The fascists are the ones who are trying to impose themselves against people's will because they carry arms; now it is the people who own the arms. The Libyan people should not be threatened by a fascist stick like cattle. There is a difference between cattle, people, and human beings. The armed fascists are the only people who cannot differentiate between cattle and people masses. The hegemony of the armed fascist is responsible for the weakness of the peoples and states of the Third World. The peoples of the Arab nation still oscillate between the dictatorships of reactionism and fascism. [passage omitted]

Our ranks should be cleaned continuously; in 1975 I did not use the adverb continuously, now I use it; I mean this should be even this year and the following one. [passage omitted] I have stated that it was your right to crush your enemy; you have won and this is your era; why be afraid? So, prepare yourselves. [applause]

From the start of this meeting, I told you that I have come here today to talk and salute you because today is Revolution Day and because the holding of this session coincided with this day. Other than this, as far as I am concerned as far as my colleagues are concerned, you should understand that since 1977 we no longer have any constitutional prerogative on your economic, political, and administrative matters. Please, let us be clear about this point. You may seek our advice; we are ready to play the role of revolutionary instigators as our presence warrants this. However, we are restricted by people's authority. [passage omitted]

I would like to tell you one thing: I would like to stress to you, and I hope that you understand the meaning of this word in the same as I understand it, that personally speaking, as well as my colleagues, our action is fully curtailed by the people's authority. This means that people's authority really restricts us.

You are aware that there are a host of things that I would have liked to see happen by law, but I do not have the authority to issue a law, consequently these things do not happen, because you reject them. People's authority has become restrictive even on revolutionaries, we are no longer able to act; it restricts even Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi; I cannot act. [passage omitted]

We are revolutionaries, we launched this revolution, we effectively handed over power to the people. We could have stayed in power until we finished, in one way or another, but as a matter of fact we willingly handed over power to the people because the revolution, as I explained to you last night, is a popular revolution. [passage omitted]

I always say to you: Rely on yourselves, i.e, the people must rely on themselves. How? With the congresses and the people's committees and the revolutionary committees. Do not rely on individuals. Some people took part with me in the revolution. They took part in the revolution, and now they have gone to America and submitted to it just one request. He has circulated a letter; he was with us in the revolution. He went to the Security Council, or I do not know where. Naturally, they are laughing at him.

He says to them: Please stop Libyan oil exports and attack Libya militarily; this state is not [word indistinct]. By God, this person took part with us in the revolution. People who took part with us in the revolution have gone to America. Therefore, there is no guarantee; an individual is no guarantee. Having taken part in the revolution is no guarantee. The guarantee is the people. [applause]

I want it to be clear that our own moral value is one thing and constitutional power is something else. Can I issue a law? This is not possible. Suppose I issue a law, sign it and publish it. When it came in front of a court it would throw it away; it would be considered as null and void because it had not been issued by the people's power, by the people's congresses. Please differentiate between revolutionary legitimacy and constitutional legitimacy; this is what I mean, revolutionary legitimacy and constitutional legitimacy.

With revolutionary legitimacy we can do everything, with constitutional legitimacy we can do nothing. We are now in constitutional legitimacy. Who has power? The people, the peoples' congresses and committees. I repeat: Do not rely on others, do not rely on individuals. My colleagues and I are supposed to be saluted by you when we pass, and you say: May God bestow good health and goodness on you, O you revolutionaries. You would let us pass on the street, that is all, you do not ask us for anything. Constitutionally, you are not supposed to ask us for anything. We handed power over to you because this uncalled-for relying on us is harmful to your interest. [passage omitted]

I have now discovered that since 1990, not even 1993, it should have been known that a town like Tripoli with 1.5 or 2 million inhabitants has been lacking drinking water. I am telling you: I had no such information, I did not know this, because I am not in charge of facilities; nor am I a prime minister, or concerned with this.

I do know however in a strategic way that North Africa lacks water and that in 20 or 30 years there is bound to be a disaster in North Africa. This is why we have built dams with Egypt, Sudan, Chad, and others. We have concluded agreements to go to the land where water exists, the land of the Arabs, the homeland of the Arabs. This is what I am planning for and what I am responsible for from a revolutionary and strategic point of view. But I am not responsible for water desalination stations for a Libyan town, now do I know how old the stations are, or how much they cost, or how much water does the town consume. I would have never thought that in 1990 the water in Tripoli was salty. This is unbelievable. [passage omitted]

This is what happens when you rely on others who you think are responsible; nobody is responsible except yourselves. I am not an expert in the fields of sectors; I am not an engineer of spare parts or engines; I am responsible for strategic matters. [passage omitted]

I have nothing to do whatsoever with the town of Tubruk, its station, its water, its needs. This is an administrative responsibility that warrants decisions and financial means. These means are submitted to you at your Basic People's Congresses, and it is up to you how to decide the budget distribution for each sector. [passage omitted]

How do you expect me to know that there are thousands of homes in Hun without running water? I do not know this; it is you who know this. But they blame us, and claim that the revolution did not provide spare parts in Tubruk; or sewage in Hun; or drinking water in Tripoli. There was is contract between you and the revolution that it should provide you with spare parts. The contract signed between the two of you was the establishment of people's authority; oil which was flowing unchecked, is now given back to you; irrespective of its quantity. It is up to how you use it. This is the revolution, this is the contract between you and us; we gave back oil; we handed you authority; we recovered you country; we expelled foreigners from it.

The contract existing between us does not stipulate the provision of spare parts, or water or sewage in Hun. This is your prerogative. I hope you understand the difference between revolutionary legitimacy and constitutional legitimacy. [passage omitted]

The revolution decided to build the great man-made river before even the current leadership was formed, before '69. This is what I am trying to explain: When you assume that our revolutionary prerogative is in fact an administrative responsibility, your sectors collapse. My absence, even if lasts one or two or three months, even if I go abroad, should not affect your sectors; you can use my advice. But from the point of view of Constitution, administration and law, if I am absent for one month or 1 million years, this should have no effect at all, because the people has the authority, the Basic People's Congresses decide and the committees implement.

In your agenda you discussed whether or not the Libyan dinar should be convertible. You kept demanding that currency should be allowed to be taken abroad, the only person who can answer this question is the governor of the Central Bank; he is the ruler in this case, this is his title in other countries. [passage omitted]

What I am about to say is a strategic point, a revolutionary issue. I insist that the oil revenue be distributed to Libyans directly; it should be deposited in their bank accounts and used for purchasing whatever they need.

[Passage omitted] The Swiss frank became convertible; Germany, which is the fifth strongest industrial country, boasts a free market. [passage omitted] If you produce and export your products, the value of the Libyan dinar will go up.

Regarding national service, this covers the sectors of administration, education, and health. One should serve one's country in the sectors of education, health, and administration for 6-12 months. [passage omitted]

I am sorry I have dealt with administrative and other subjects while we are celebrating the anniversary of the revolution. This is not supposed to be the time for such matters; they should be discussed at another session.

What we say finally, and what the world may be interested in more than in its interest in spare parts for Tubruq water desalination plant, is our attitude to the world and Libya's foreign policy. I think that the world is now convinced that Libya is the one which sticks to firm lines and has sound principles that have not changed. They even say: By God, the Libyans went to Jerusalem. Libyan policy toward Israel has changed. How come? I challenge any Arab leader to say from his capital the things that the leader of the Libyan pilgrims said in the heart of Jerusalem! Anyone from any Arab capital, even from Nouakchott, to say the things that the leader of the Libyan pilgrims said in the heart of Jerusalem! Can an Arab leader say: Jerusalem must be liberated? The Arabs do not talk about Jerusalem; they say East Jerusalem! Have you ever heard that Jerusalem has become East, West, North, and South Jerusalem? Who is the Arab who now talks about Jerusalem? [applause]

If this pilgrimage had been in the interest of the Israelis and the Americans, why then does the problem of the confrontation with the West remain unresolved? It has not been solved. The act carried out by the Libyans has one very clear meaning: It makes clear how difficult it is to reach Mecca. That is all. Even in the new year the same situation will evolve. One may resort to any other place; the Libyans may go to the Vatican in the new year in exasperation at not being able to go to Mecca. The Libyans wanted to take an aircraft to Mecca. They were told to take a car to Jerusalem. They were asked why they—termed as Libyan extremists, who call for liberation from the River Jordan to the Mediterranean Sea and from the south of Lebanon to the south of Palestine—had come to Jerusalem? We came to Jerusalem? We came to the capital of the Palestinian state! This contradicts the Israeli and Western attitudes that Jerusalem is not the capital of the state of Palestine. The Libyans retorted: We came to the capital of our Palestinian state! Then they were asked: Why did you come? They said: By God, we are forbidden from going to Mecca. This is the only meaning of the pilgrimage. It shows the difficult situation facing the Libyans; we will not mention the difficult situation in Mecca in case our brothers in Saudi Arabia feel offended. They could not reach Mecca by air. Thus they went to another holy place by land. This exposed the situation: Had the Libyans not gone to Jerusalem, the Islamic nation would not have known that the Libyan people are banned from reaching Mecca. They told the other Muslims: We have been banned for two years and the same may happen year after year. We must each year raise the alarm and reveal the difficult situation concerning the House of God.

What has this got to do with the Israelis or the Americans? They know us. [laughs] A Jew told them: We hope that al-Qadhdhafi will visit us. Only God knows what will become of al-Qadhdhafi the day he visits them! [applause]

Those who are taking part in the peace negotiations want to know Libya's stand toward the peace negotiations. Libya's stance toward peace is that Libya supports peace. There is no doubt about this, a peace based on justice. This has been repeatedly stated by Jamal 'Abd-al-Nasir: Peace is based on justice. It is not just that Jordan and Egypt cannot reach each other overland. The Arab homeland is cut off from the Red Sea to the Mediterranean; you cannot get through. It is cut off by what is called Israel. Egypt has not got al-Tabah, it has 'Umm al-Rashrash; Elat belongs to Egypt. Elat is an indivisible part of Egypt; Elat is called 'Umm al- Rashrash in history and geography books, and the Jews called it Elat. It belongs to Egypt, it is not al-Tabah which belongs to Egypt; all Elat is an indivisible part of Egypt, so that Egypt and Jordan become linked by land. The Arab homeland is now cut off. [passage omitted]

First, the Libyan theories are the ones which control the course of the world. It seems that the workers are marching against the companies. [passage omitted] I say to them: As far as the Palestinian issue is concerned, we are for peace based on justice. However, what is happening now is not peace and will not lead to peace. These talks were stillborn. I say to them: Do not be deceived. Even the Jews should not be deceived. Even the Jews suspect their Zionist leadership, and they know that it is deceiving them, and that it brought them to the promised land to die, hence they listen to anyone who defends them.

I say to you that if it was not for the fact that the state established in Palestine is a Jewish state, I would have been the first to defend the Jews, because actually they are persecuted throughout the world. But I am not against the occupation of Palestine because they are Jews, but because I believe that no one, even if he is Chinese, has the right to occupy Palestine. [passage omitted]

Statements made by Libya are listened to, even by the Jews. They know that Libya does not hate Jews because they are Jews; Libya is against the occupation of someone else's country. This is not their country; indeed there are Jews who have been present with the Palestinians for a long time; they would remain, but the fact that every country sends all its Jews to Palestine means it is an occupation. Then they say that talks are based on Palestinian and Israeli states. I warn the Jews that this is a conspiracy against them: The Palestinian state established in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip is a mere stage; the Palestinians will take it as a basis for liberating Tel Aviv, 'Akko, Haifa, and Jaffa. How? Because the plan of the PLO is the liberation of Haifa, 'Akko, Jaffa, and Tel Aviv. When the PLO was set up, the West Bank and the Gaza Strip belonged to the Arabs, thus the conflict was for what? It was for Palestine, not for the West Bank and Gaza. The Arab boycott of the Israelis; the Arab boycott and the Arab League Charter are based on liberating Tel Aviv, 'Akko, Jaffa, and Haifa, and all Palestine that was occupied in 1948.

Did the Arabs establish the boycott in 1967 or in 1945—I mean 1948? They established it in 1948. Why? Because the conflict was over Palestine and not over the West Bank and Gaza Strip. The Arab League Charter calls for liberating Palestine and does not recognize the Israeli state. The PLO program calls for the liberation of Palestine, whose capital is Tel Aviv, and does not recognize the existence of an Israeli state in that place.

If they are going to be deceived now, and say that the West Bank and Gaza Strip are the Palestinian state and we should accept, then I would say to them: Do not be deceived. I say the same thing to the poor Jews so that they do not face another problem.

It is only 15 km between the cease-fire line in the West Bank and the sea. The Israeli territorial depth is 15 km between the borders of the West Bank and the Mediterranean Sea. Is it possible that a state could survive in 15 km?

This is a stage in which we are establishing the Palestinian state. It will not stop at the liberation of the sea towns. Let everything be clear. If it is such a trick, why should we deceive ourselves and the whole world—the whole world or the Jews—why the deception?

The camps in the West Bank: do they not say such-and-such camp, such-and-such camp, and such-and-such camp? Where did the camps come from? They came from Tel Aviv, 'Akko, Haifa, and Jaffa. This means that they are Palestinians who came from their towns as guests of the West Bank.

The Golan belongs to Syria. The West Bank belongs to Jordan. Gaza belongs to Egypt. Palestine is the Palestine outside the West Bank and Gaza Strip, for which and for whose liberation the PLO was formed.

What is the solution? The minimum peaceful solution is the return of all Palestinian people to Palestine, and the United Nations should supervise the establishment of a democratic state of both the Jews and Palestinians. It should not be called Israel. It should be called Palestine. This is because Israel means the sons of Israel who are Jews only, but Palestine means the Jews and the Palestinians.

This is similar to what is happening in South Africa. In South Africa there are now free elections for the blacks and whites under the supervision of the United Nations, and a new state will be established. The majority there will be the blacks. Apartheid will end. We will establish relations with it and the boycott of South Africa will end; apartheid will end, everything will end. [passage omitted]

This is the minimum for Palestine. It is the South African model. All the Palestinians should return—4 million, 5 million, 6 million, 7 million—I do not know how many, even if they are 2 million. The important thing is that all the dispersed Palestinians should return, and free elections should take place under the supervision of the United Nations, and a new Palestinian democratic state should be established. Without that there is nothing but conflict. Even if they establish a Palestinian state and an Israeli state, war between them will start after a few years. In this case the Palestinians will win the war, because the Israelis will not be able to use nuclear weapons inside Palestine, as it will affect them. Therefore, the Palestinians will fight with bombs, rifles, and hand grenades until they enter Tel Aviv.

This is our firm and clear opinion. Either the state becomes a democratic Palestinian one, to which all the Palestinian people return, or war between them is inevitable.

We told them that even if Yasir 'Arafat signs with you tomorrow, Yasir 'Arafat will go and another will come who will abrogate this agreement. And I told them that if there is a Palestinian side who goes along with you in this program, there are Palestinian sides who are rejectionists. Do not say we have reached a final solution; another Palestinian will come and invalidate it. There are now 10 Palestinian organizations called the 10 organizations which are not under the control of Yasir 'Arafat and outside the PLO. They reject anything done by the group led by Yasir 'Arafat. There is the Hamas movement—the Islamic Resistance Movement—inside occupied Palestine, which rejects Yasir 'Arafat, and also others beside Yasir 'Arafat, and that they fight inside occupied Palestine. Any solution agreed with Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] will be shattered by Hamas. Any solution agreed with Hamas or Yasir 'Arafat can be blown to pieces by the other 10 organizations. This is what we tell them, and it is clear.

The fact is that the states of the former USSR, or now Russia, America, and Spain, which hosted the talks, wanted to make something for the sake of peace; they look at the problem differently. They do not know the details. They wish for a speedy solution. The president of a European state said: Listen, we are not looking for a lasting solution. We are looking for a solution for now, and afterward we do not care what happens. Let the Arabs and the Israelis finish one another. Even if no Jew remains alive in Palestine. Give us peace in the near future and let our companies work and tourism operate, and we will overcome the economic crisis from which capitalism suffers. Of course, capitalism will not survive the crisis it is facing, and will die.

There are enemies who provoke Mu'ammar Al-Qadhdhafi, who will wave his hands in anger, curse the West, and declare general mobilization, declare confrontation. I speak and declare general mobilization when I know it is necessary. But now the matter is taking a course other than that of confrontation, speeches, and general mobilization.

Our relations with America—which is now listening to this speech—have gone through four phases, with the current phase being the fourth. America meant nothing to us, from the eruption of the Libyan revolution to the end of the Carter era. We nationalized the oil and it did not take any action against the move. We expelled its five bases from Libya, we expelled its soldiers, and it did nothing. There used to be cooperation between us and America in oil and agriculture. American companies used to operate here and matters were normal between Libya and America. On the contrary, I tell you that at the start of the revolution we were Islamic extremists. The laws on Islamic punishment in Libya, about which we have been talking, are not new; we are amending them. But they were decided in 1970. When was the law on Islamic punishment issued? Anyone remember? [words indistinct] No before that, when we set up a higher committee headed by an Egyptian judge named 'Ali 'Ali Mansur. We told him to revise all the Libyan laws and amend them to conform with Islamic Shari'ah immediately after the revolution. Cutting of the hands of thieves, whipping, and the other things mentioned in the Koran were decided in 1971 [year as heard].

When [former] King al-Faysal [of Saudi Arabia] sent me a message, thanking me for applying the Islamic Shari'ah in Libya, I did not want to reply. He was upset because I did not reply to his message. I said it would be alright to reply, but what business is it of yours congratulating me, this is my religion. We received the message and it was broadcast on the air, and that is all there is to it. You are not the guardian of Muslims.

Indeed, there was great strictness at the beginning of the revolution regarding Islamic values and heritage. It has to be understood that at that time communism was our enemy, even at home. The demonstrations staged against the revolution were led by communists, the people executed by the revolution on 7 April were communists, and the leading enemy of the al-Fatih revolution was actually the communists, because they were not satisfied with any revolution other than a Marxist-Leninist revolution.

I made a great effort during that period with al-Sadat, so that the United States would not get dragged into the conflict against the Arabs. Al-Sadat was convinced, but he went further. Let the world hear this. I told him: Listen, The Israelis fought against us with English weapons in 1948, with German weapons in 1956, with French weapons in 1967—Mirages and others. Do not let them fight us with U.S. weapons in the next war. I told him: I urge that you, the United States, and Russia must remain neutral in the conflict. We must do our utmost to neutralize the superpowers in the conflict between the Arabs and the Israelis. [passage omitted]

We used to exchange insults [with Reagan] and we ended up with the war. When Bush came to power, the enmity continued but the insults stopped. Until the end of his mandate, four years, Bush did not insult someone called Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi and did not attack Libya that way, nor did he carry out direct provocations or aggressive actions against Libya. However, we remained enemies. For my part, I did not use insults when talking about Bush. I criticized his policy, especially his interventions in Iraq and in Panama. But in fact, there was mutual respect. There was mutual enmity and mutual respect. This was the third period.

The fourth period is the return of democracy to the top in America and the current presence of Clinton. We regard this period as a period of friendship with the people who are now governing America, not with America—an imperialist power which has an expansionist policy in the world. The Democrats, however, are in fact friends of the Libyans. The Democrats who have elected Clinton are the blacks, the Red Indians, and the minorities. We used to support these minorities. In this hall, in the hall next to us, we hosted the conference of the Red Indians, I think during Reagan's era. Reagan was angered and asked why we hosted a conference for the Red Indians of the United States in the People's Hall in Tripoli.

We also hosted several conferences for the blacks. I addressed them by satellite while they held a rally in the heart of New York, or Washington—I cannot really remember. Where? What is it called? Chicago? I addressed them from here in Tripoli, from the command headquarters via satellite. Reagan was also angered and asked why I addressed the blacks and hosted conferences for the blacks. All these blacks and these minorities, which include the Jews, the Arabs, and all the other minorities, are in fact our allies, and it is they who brought Clinton to power.

Therefore the situation is (?different). This is a new fact: America, the administration now governing America, is supposed to be an administration which is friendly to Libya and not hostile. Consequently, when we do not attack Clinton, for example, nobody should say that we are afraid of America. As I have told you, when Reagan's fleets were roaring here, I was insulting him and cursing him; we were not afraid of him and we hit him with bullets.

But everything has its place. Enmity is something and friendship is something else. It is at the personal level, and at the international level it is something else. Nowadays there is no enmity between us and the U.S. Administration. On the contrary, we consider it friendship.

First, of those who took part in the raid against us in 1986 and killed our children, none are now present. This includes the intelligence services, the State Department, the Defense Department, the National [Security] Council, the White House, the President, etc. They have all gone. During Bush's era, the administration was still there. A large number of those who ordered the attack on us were with Bush. Therefore there was enmity, and this was in addition to America's other policy to which we were opposed.

However, in Clinton's current era, none of those who took part in the aggression against us is present. There is a new State Department, new intelligence services. The Pentagon, the Defense Department, and the White House staff are new. This President is new and his vice president is new. In other words, there is no history between these people and us, particularly as Clinton was governor of a small state in America. He is a young man and he was opposed to the Vietnam war. All these things make us harbor feelings of friendship rather than enmity for America now.

Regarding France, relations have not been cut; they continue between Libya and France, and companies and embassies and matters (?are normal). Even the problem of the aircraft, what they call the UTA, we can solve it with France. It is not a problem. First, France did not make it a condition that the Libyans go to France. Consequently the Libyans can go to France; if they want to go there they can do so, because they did not make it a condition: You must come to me so that I can put you on trial. It did not make this demand.

If the French judge wants to come to Libya, he can do so. Now they say that Libya must comply with the requests of the French judge; this is among their requests. We told them: The French judge is welcome, let him come investigate. What is the benefit? Let him bring the evidence and let him come here. They said: No, you did not let him come.

I will now tell you a story which we have not mentioned or published. It is an incident which we did not publish. I will tell you that with regard to the French judge, we agreed with France that he would come to Libya to carry out the investigation, peruse the documents, and meet people—meet witnesses and lawyers—and the problem would be solved in this context. It was possible for matters to be solved in this way, until by accident—so that they know that we have no responsibility in these things, these administrative matters—who has entered, the sea and the air. [sentence as heard] This is your responsibility. I asked about one, they told me: By God we do not know [word indistinct], he is busy, they are making arrangements for an honor guard. [sentence as heard] What do you mean by honor guard? Is there a head of state coming that I do not know about? [words indistinct] they should thank me or even give me—what is it called, what you mentioned—extra pay. [laughter]

The issue of who meets heads of state at the airport is not my prerogative; however, if I do not meet a head of state at the airport, the latter will get angry and will not come to you. I am not a president like them or a king, but if an Arab ruler comes and he is not met by Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, he might go back from the airport. I will tell him [word indistinct] or want to be there with you. I have no such prerogative; I am not a head of state and if it is possible for all the Libyan people to welcome you, please come in. They say: No, how is it that you do not welcome him?

How come? Has a head of state come and they have not told me about him? God willing, what is this honor guard? They said this honor guard was for a French naval vessel. What about this French naval vessel? They said: The judge is coming aboard it. What? The judge is coming aboard a naval vessel. In fact I was not paying attention until that point.

I said: OK, bring me information on the vessel. It turned out to be a frigate with Exocet missiles for use against naval targets, with surface-to-air missiles and torpedoes, and it was a frigate aboard which the French judge was coming to investigate in Libya. I told them: By God Almighty, even if the world is turned upside down, he will not enter a Libyan port. [applause]

I told them: When France occupies Libya, then the judge can come in a frigate. But since he had entered territorial waters, I told them: Inform France immediately that this ship will be in danger in minutes if it appears on the Libyan screens and becomes an enemy target, and you are responsible for it. Then the judge immediately returned. He was given orders from the sea to return with his frigate. I do not know if he went to Tunisia. Did he go to Tunisia? I do not know whether he returned from Tunisia or from the sea.

Is it possible? A judge comes in a frigate. We have not broadcast this to you, and the French also kept silent about it, saying: Please do not publicize this matter about us.

Now, there is a legal committee which is dealt with by Libyans and is composed, I think, of members of the General People's Congress, and which follows up the confrontation with the West over the so-called Lockerbie case. This committee allows the French judge to come in a friendly way. If he wants us to guard him, we will do so. If he is frightened, we will guard him and put protection around him until he gets to Libya. If he comes in a friendly and peaceful way, then he is welcome.

I believe that the problem with France can end anytime because there are no complications. The issue with France could be a legal matter. Investigation and witnesses. The Libyans, it seems, do not fear at all the investigation because they have nothing to do with this UTA.

As for the other case, which they call Lockerbie—the crash of the Pan Am airplane on the town of Lockerbie in Britain—they explained it. When asked why they accused Libya, they said because we committed an aggression against Libya in 1986, and we [not further specified] will not pardon it. Britain and America said that.

The aircraft were launched from America and Britain. You felt guilty and you knew that you have committed an aggression against Libya and that Libya could avenge itself. This is what put in their heads the idea that Libya was perhaps the one who targeted an American airplane and shot it down on an English town.

Naturally, according to the reports it fell on Lockerbie by accident. But they said: No, this was planned; the Libyans want to avenge themselves and kill two birds with one stone. They took revenge on America and took revenge on Britain. They took an American airplane and destroyed it over an English town; Britons and Americans died. This was their explanation.

Naturally this cannot be the explanation. First, this is an admission by them that they committed an aggression against Libya and wronged Libya. This is what made the Libyans think of taking revenge.

They said: It is possible that it was not the state. It could have been someone whose wife died or someone whose family, son, or daughter died. That [the deaths] was true. As you know, there were Libyans on Ben Ashur Street and on Baninah Street in Benghazi whose whole families died. There are whole families who died. They were bombed. The citizen could take revenge sometime without his wife knowing or without anyone knowing. They explained it that way.

We said to them: If you feel that you have wronged Libya, wronged Libyan families, and killed children, and that their families could take revenge and avenge them, all right, do not do it again. This is provided that your explanation is true, but let us investigate so that we can reach the truth.

This commission was formed. The commission—or Libya—said to them that Thatcher and Reagan were wanted for trial in Libya. If we hand over the Libyans, does this mean that when the Libyan courts ask for Americans and Britons, they would come to Libya? This is a difficult question which they should answer. If we take such an initiative, then all right. When we ask for an American or Briton to be tried in Libya for such an offense, they should sign [an agreement] saying that they will hand him over.

Moreover, the UN Security Council did not decide that the Libyans should be handed over. There is nothing like that. The Security Council says that the memorandum of the three countries as far as....[pauses] Indeed, the memorandum contains the hand-over [of the suspects], but this is the demand of the three countries and not the demand of the UN Security Council. The UN Security Council says that Libya should implement this memorandum, but it specified a proviso, it said, concerning the legal investigations. It did not say concerning the hand-over. Therefore there is no resolution that commits Libya to handing over [the suspects].

Furthermore, what could we do about Resolutions 425, 799, and any of the resolutions issued against the Israelis but not implemented. Libya is asking this of the UN Security Council. Why is Israel exempted from Chapter 7? The UN Security Council should answer the question: How come a UN member-country is exempt from Chapter 7 and exempt from any sanctions? Resolution 425 says: The Israelis should withdraw from southern Lebanon within 24 hours. So far they have been there for 13 years.

Resolution 799 said the deportees should return immediately. The Israelis said: We will implement the resolution the way we wish. The United Nations said all right. If that is how they want it, then Libya will implement the resolutions the way it wishes. [applause]

At the end of the day, all Libya is asking for is to be treated on equal terms with Israel: this is a state and that one is a state, we are both UN members. What is more, if the United States and the West force the Arabs to negotiate with the Israelis, why do they refuse to negotiate with Libya? This is an even more serious question than the first one. Have they not stated that negotiations are the best way to reach a solution? Then let us put to the test this argument on all issues.

Let us set aside the Lockerbie issue. There are other U.S.-Libyan matters pending since the days of Reagan and Bush. Let us negotiate about them. They have nothing to do with the issue of Lockerbie. Fair enough, they may claim that there will be no negotiations regarding Lockerbie. I say why do we not start negotiations with regard to the pre-Lockerbie matters. Libyans and Americans should sit round the negotiating table officially and publicly, not in secrecy like gangsters.

They are faced with extremely serious questions. When Libyans are found innocent, what shall we do about the case of the Libyan plane that was shot down [as heard] at Tripoli Airport by the UN Security Council and which was carrying 157 passengers? The UN Security Council resolution resulted in the shooting down of a Libyan plane carrying 157 passengers.

Who will compensate for the damages suffered by the Libyan people as a result of the UN resolutions? When the Libyan people is found innocent, it will demand compensation for the plane that was shot down because of a Security Council resolution. It will claim compensation for all Libyans who died along Libya-Tunisia, Libya- Egypt, and Libya-Malta [as heard] roads, in addition to other material damages incurred by Libya as result of the so-called UN Security Council. Libya will demand compensation.

The GPC, composed of secretaries from basic people's congresses and committees, has to set up a commission to look into this issue. When I talk about this issue, I do so in my capacity as an facilitating official. All I can do is but explain this issue to the basic people's congresses. [passage omitted]

We are not an irresponsible state like the so-called Israel or others. We are a state responsible for the Mediterranean, responsible for peace, responsible for Arab unity, responsible for Africa, responsible for international forces of liberation. We are interested in tourism, trade, peace, a clean environment, respect, and unity of nations. Consequently we support the unity of the Kurdish people. If we are concerned about the plight of the Kurds, why does one put the emphasis on the Kurds of northern Iraq; all Kurdish people should be liberated and united; this is a fact. I had a disagreement with our Iraqi brothers because of the Kurds. Since the inception of the revolution, I have been telling them that the Kurdish nation has a right to unity and independence in the Near East; this nation stretches from Turkey to Iraq and Iran. We support the Kurds, but why should we support those in northern Iraq only, and massacre them elsewhere?

Additionally, this is desperate work emanating from a nation that aspires for liberation. We would like to give the following advice to our brothers in Turkey: You tried this method against the Arabs, but it did not stop pan-Arabism from winning. They considered us rebels; apostates and deserving to be massacred; they looked at the issue as one of racism and apostasy. They tried desperate attempts like those of Jamal Pasha in Syria, and those tried by Turkish rulers in Tripoli, Tunisia, Algeria, Egypt. At the end of the day, pan-Arabism triumphed.

The current attempts against the Kurds are desperate attempts. Why are our brothers in Turkey trying to repeat the same doomed lesson. They tried it against the Arab and failed, now they are using it against Kurdistan. Obviously, we harbor all amity to our brothers ruling Turkey. However, we would like to advise them and tell them that such deeds were tried by the Ottomans against the Arabs in the past and failed. Why should you try the same method? Your are doing yourselves a disservice.

This is what I have to say about the issue of the Kurdish people. We are in favor of an independent Kurdish nation. However, when we focus our attention on Iraq alone, this means a conspiracy against Iraq. [passage omitted]

We are against Germany and Japan being given permanent seats in the [UN] Security Council. This would be a catastrophe for Third World and small countries. Small countries would be pounded and crushed if every big country is given the veto. We, in the [UN] General Assembly must oppose that trend. [passage omitted]

We support reforming the Security Council and changing the policy which was based on referring any confrontation between states to the United Nations, but it must remain within the scope of the United Nations. What is taking place in Somalia now is absolutely not within the scope of the United Nations. According to the UN Charter, it is the right of the Somali people to resist all the forces that are present in their territory. Aidid has been transformed from an agent to a resistance hero. All the Somalis must rally around Aidid and the Arab nation as a whole must rally around the Somali people to liberate their land. [applause]

The initiative was good at first and we supported it. The United States said that the Somali people were suffering from hunger and disease, so let us embark on an international campaign to get relief and food to the Somali people. There are armed people who are taking the supplies on the way, so we will protect [the supplies]. In fact, we all agreed to that and said that it was a good step. [passage omitted]

However, for it to change into a force other than that of the United Nations and to change into a fighting force spreading death among Somalis and to give a daily meal of bullets instead of bread—this is something that anyone who keeps quiet about would be regarded as a coward. It is cowardly of the Arab nation to keep quiet and be afraid. One of the peoples of the Arab nation is being killed and slaughtered. I know that the Somalis are harming themselves and everyone of them wants to be a ruler. They refused to set up people's authority. Everyone of them has set up a party and the parties started fighting and changed into tribes, and it all fell on the poor Somalis' heads. They opened the door to foreign forces to control Bab al-Mandab. If the policy was to control Bab al-Mandab, why exploit a poor people like the Somali people and distribute bullets every morning under the pretext of intervention in the interest of the Somali people for the distribution of food? No, just say that this is an imperialist policy to control Bab al-Mandab, and that must be resisted by all the peoples in the region.

What is taking place in Somalia now has nothing to do with the UN Charter. The United Nations is supposed to intervene between states. What takes place in a state is its people's responsibility. There is also the Arab League; the Arab League should have been given the opportunity to go to Somalia.

Even in the case of Iraq, when it occupied Kuwait, the Arab nation and the Arab League should have intervened. They did not at all give us the opportunity. I contacted King Fahd at night and told him: I hope that we will solve the problem at the Arab level. Do not let the super powers enter. He told me: The United States, by God, is a superpower and if it enters Saudi Arabia who will stop it?. You, the King of Saudi Arabia, tell me that the United States entered Saudi Arabia and who will prevent it? This means that they entered without your permission! This is what he told me. He told me: This is a superpower: who can prevent it if it entered?

An occupation took place. It was wrong for Iraq to take Kuwait, even if there were problems before and there were border issues. What touched me is that the emir of Kuwait himself supported Iraq against the United States in Baghdad. This was when we held an extraordinary Arab summit conference in Baghdad which was attended by the leaders of Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and other Gulf countries who supported Iraq. Before this they gave it everything in its war against Iran. Kuwait gave everything. It even dismantled its missiles and gave them to Iraq together with its planes—of course on the orders of the West in order to destroy the Islamic revolution. Iraq betrayed Kuwait; I did not like this. Yesterday we were with you [in Iraq for the summit]. You let us go home and then attacked and seized Kuwait, whose people supported you? As far as Iraq is concerned, irrespective of our view of the Iranian-Iraqi war and who was behind it and its causes, Kuwait was with Iraq against Iran. And Saudi Arabia was with Iraq against Iran. They gave it millions: 52 billions. How come then you end your war with your enemies and turn on the people who fought with you and occupy them? [passage omitted]

Then came the superpowers and expelled Iraq from Kuwait. What happened afterwards, even Kuwait should be with Iraq against it. I regret very much seeing all the Arabs subdued, silent, and unable to utter a single word in support of Iraq. Perhaps some naive person would laugh and say: How come Al-Qadhdhafi says that Kuwait, for whose sake they are doing all they are doing in Iraq, should stand by Iraq. I tell you that what is happening in Iraq is not for the sake of Kuwait at all. Iraq fired 30 missiles on what is called Israel. This is what they are punishing it for, not for Kuwait. Our brothers in Kuwait are mistaken if they believe that what is happening in Iraq is punishment for Iraq's occupation of Kuwait. Had it been for the issue of Kuwait alone, everything would have stopped when Iraq left Kuwait and Iraq would not have been in the present situation. They taught it a lesson, for they told the Israelis to keep quiet. He attacked you? Do not worry! Do not make a fuss, so that we [the West] can win Arab support [for the military intervention] [passage omitted]

The orthodox doctrine of Serbia and Russia is a progressive Christian doctrine which is close and allied to Islam. The current massacres in Bosnia-Herzegovina involving the Serbian orthodox is a struggle between Islam and the orthodox doctrine. We warn against the eruption of a crusading war. Unfortunately, the drums of the West are sounding in favor of this tune. They said communism has finished, now is the turn of Islam. This is what has opened the doors for some extremist Islamic groups to launch a campaign of vengeance.

We in Libya have the capability of dealing with the Algerian Islamic Salvation Front [FIS]. Abassi Madani and his assistant, Belhadj, [jailed FIS leaders] are our friends. I acted as their imam when praying; we were photographed together; they visited us; we held discussions together. They are not hostile people. It is the plot hatched against Algeria that has led to the eruption of hostility among the ranks of Algerians.

The plot began when Chadli Bendjedid was told to establish a multiparty system along the lines of those in Europe. How can one set up a multiparty system in Algeria? If power is to be handed over to the people, we welcome that; self-rule like the one introduced by [former President] Ben Bella, that is also welcomed. As for the multi-party system, well this is its result. They held elections which turned out to be rigged; these elections became a farce; whenever there are elections, this leads to civil war automatically. [passage omitted]

The current situation in Algeria was born out of the introduction of the multi-party system. The FIS won the elections; but the others came and outlawed te FIS, which forced the latter to resort to arms and fight one another.

What I mean here is that Libya can reach an agreement with the FIS to save Algeria. Personally speaking, if I meet Abassi Madani, even in his prison, I am ready to put an end to the current disturbances raging in Algeria; on condition there is a genuine people's democracy.

We are also friends of Ennahdha [banned fundamentalist group] in Tunisia. I mean, if there are problems between the Tunisian Government and Ennahdha, we can prevent what is happening in Egypt and Algeria from happening in Tunisia.

I managed to convince the most senior Ennahdha leader, who is living abroad, to return home and embark on a reasonable course of action; if there are elections, he will take part. He now lives in Tunisia. He is Mourou, a well-known leader of Ennahdha. He considered himself a dissident because he remained in Tunisia and said that he could not go abroad and did not want to resort to violence. This is because I convinced him to do so. I told him that he could return to Tunisia on the condition that he respects the democratic path. I told him: You are free to work for a peaceful democracy, for people's authority and Arab unity, for real Islam, which knows no doctrines. As for bombs, assassinations, and secret action, these things have nothing to do with Islam and are nonsensical since any drunkard is capable of carrying out such acts.

Ennahdha leaders who now live in Britain, France, and elsewhere used to be our friends. Zine El Abidine is our brother and friend. We said he could be the new star of North Africa; God willing, he will be, and, God willing, he will change the map of North Africa and unite this region. He has dynamism and ambition. We support him in achieving his ambition. He is our friend and brother, and for your information, he exerts great efforts for your cause. However, the West refuses to listen to Zine El Abidine, Husni Mubarak, Fahd, King Hassan. Regrettably, there is no Arab confrontation against the West. Believe me, all these people have tried hard to find a solution despite the fact that all our Arab states are not independent; they just enjoy self-determination. Nobody boasts free choice. I feel sorry for them as they are incapable of any action.

Regrettably, the Arabs are worthless as far as the West is concerned. The poor have exerted all their efforts [to defend the cause of Libya] to no avail. Regrettably, these are not independent states. [passage omitted] We are speaking about political matters which you have taken us away from: The West is beating the drums of a crusade, and their real provocation to Libya, their tearing apart of Iraq, their humiliation of the Arab nation, their humiliation of the Palestinian people and their right to their own land, and their infringing on and destruction of the Lebanese people—they are killing Arabs like rats, not like other animals which have societies of care to protect them; the Arabs have no society to protect them in the world—all this was provocation to some people who engaged in acts of revenge, and it encouraged the present extremism.

But despite this, Libya is indeed capable of putting the brake on this extremism, that is to say, it can curb it. For your own information, 'Umar Abd al-Rahman [Muslim cleric now under arrest in the United States] is of Libyan origin. He had stayed in Libya and he was one of those sent out by Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir as a preacher to the Libyan Armed Forces after the outbreak of the revolution. If we could get in touch with him sometime then we could come to an understanding with him, and perhaps the current actions [in Egypt] might well come to an end. [passage omitted].

The Shiites, as you know, are our allies and friends except a group which is trading in the case of [Lebanese Shiite leader] Musa al-Sadr. We are all bewildered by Musa al-Sadr's disappearance; we must look for him and conclude his saga. It is a group in Lebanon which is engaged in one-upmanship only; it is not concerned about Musa al-Sadr.

Apart from this group, the Shiites are our allies. We are capable of setting up the Fatimides dynasty caliphate again. Yes, if necessary we can declare it in north Africa, and all the Islamic groups, whether extremist or not, would then come under its umbrella. This would be the case if we see that there is no way other than confrontation with the West. If the West wants our heads then we will do what we want and what we can do.

But now Libya can well play this role—a revolutionary, civilizational, and historic role. The Shiites in Iran are our allies—and in Iraq too, and in Lebanon. If the Lebanese resistance means terrorism, if Hamas is terrorism, then who is not a terrorist? Show us who is legitimate? Is the cruise missile legitimate? No, there are things we have to agree on, otherwise it would be the law of the jungle, and to hell with it! Is it reasonable to say that Aidid is a terrorist, a wanted man, and Ahmad Jibril a terrorist, and Hamas is terrorism, and the Lebanese resistance terrorism, well then where is sacred struggle? This is the most sacred struggle. This is a sacred struggle in which every Muslim and every Arab should give his life [applause] the struggle of Hamas, the struggle of Hizballah, the struggle of Somalia, and the struggle of Iraq. [applause]

We are against Iraq in Kuwait, but we are with it against Israel and the humiliation that is now taking place. We do not even draw the distinction between Sunnis and Shiites. The West comes and says those are Shiites, so let us give them an area in Iraq, while the others are Sunnis. They even interfere in our sects. [passage omitted]

Libya is capable of imposing its respect, and the attempts against it are doomed to failure, because Libya is the one that draws tomorrow's path for the whole world. Its ethics are the ones that determine the fate of the world: people's socialism; partners, not wage-earners; and people's power. [passage omitted]

The present U.S. Administration has been implicated. It is not responsible for either Somalia, Iraq, or Libya. The former administration has implicated it in Somalia, in Lockerbie, and in Iraq. Then, we have Bosnia-Herzegovina. The new U.S. Administration is hesitant now and is incapable of intervening or doing anything. It is calculating. [passage omitted]

The new U.S. Administration has not yet caught its breath, and the actions that are taking place now are the responsibility of the former U.S. Administration. I am talking about a point raised by some people who have said: Al-Qadhdhafi must deliver a speech and declare confrontation and general mobilization. No, no, we cannot do it like this. When there is a need, we call for mobilization and anything else. It is fine to mobilize the people, but against whom should we mobilize them? From our point of view, the U.S. Administration is now not a hostile administration. We shall keep watch over that. The day it becomes hostile like the others and oversteps its limits, then each one shall defend oneself.

The U.S. Administration has now closed down 90 foreign bases, and we, Libya, presented a program to the United Nations, one of the clauses of which is the closure of foreign bases in other countries. Following that program, America closed down 90 bases during the new administration; 90 military bases. Those were the ones it closed; imagine the number of its bases spread throughout the world. [passage omitted]

Ramos is our friend. He stayed with me in Surt before becoming president and exerted efforts with the West in connection with the confrontation between Libya and the West. This is why he became president. Libya is now mediating between the Islamic Liberation Movement in the south of the Philippines and the Phillippine Government. There are negotiations. They will lay down their arms, and the problem will be solved peacefully. [passage omitted]

When Libya fights, it makes an impression. Libya is very effective. When it fought with the IRA [Irish Republican Army] it caused an earthquake in London. This is clear and well known. Now we have decided not to support the IRA militarily, though the Irish cause is a just one. Ireland is Ireland, and Britain is Britain. But we have stopped supporting it militarily, because, in our view, its operations have become terrorist operations, where civilians die, and it strikes indiscriminately. These are things of which we do not approve. These are not military targets, and the operations are not an act of liberation. But when Libya put its weight with the IRA in the North Pole [as heard] London trembled. They realized that Libya is not an easy matter. They should correctly comprehend this. [applause]

We can now solve the problem in Liberia. Taylor is our friend; in fact, he was with me here in the tent. He is our friend. Museveni is our friend, and he had camps in Libya; SWAPO [South-West Africa People's Organization] had camps; the Frolina Liberation Front of Chad had camps; Sudan had camps; Ghana had camps; and Belize had camps. All of them have now become rulers and friends of the West, whom we cannot call terrorists. It is true, their camps still exist in the forest. These were liberation camps, and we do not deny this. I gathered the African soldiers in the stadium in Jeddayim forest and delivered a public speech to them, which was carried live by radio. I delivered a speech to thousands of soldiers from the African liberation forces. Cape Verde had camps here, and also Guinea-Bissau. Every liberation cause had camps here, including Native Americans and blacks, who held overt congresses in Libya. Libya is effective. This is what has led the world.

I tell you, do not say, well, what use is Africa, it is a loss. Africa, the Organization of African Unity, which is composed of how many countries? Fifty-two countries. They publicly supported Libya at the last summit in Cairo. Fifty-two African countries are now with Libya. When they say Libya is condemned by the international community, no, no—the three Western countries are now the ones under siege and condemned. The three countries are the ones that are now challenging the will of the United Nations.

The Islamic Conference Organization, which is made up of 40 countries, supported Libya's right and stance against the sanctions imposed on it.

[Passage omitted] There are positive things. Do not say that the superpowers are against Libya. The whole world is with Libya. The three countries are the ones which became arrogant and angry, and were defeated in the Security Council and the Vienna human rights conference. The whole of the international community has defeated these countries. They were defeated in the Security Council, but the three of them issued their own warning. Libya! You have four weeks to surrender or face the consequences. To hell with everything! It is impossible for us [to do anything] under the warning, and I have intervened over this matter.

Listen, when Libya is under the warning, it does not make any move until the duration of the warning elapses. Is it reasonable for us to work on the Lockerbie issues under the warning of the three countries? [If so], we would be frightened of it. On the contrary, their warning has inactivated all the negotiations between us and them. To hell with everything! [applause]

As I have told you, the issues... [al-Qadhdhafi changes thought] They are provoking me, and I do not respond to provocation. First, the U.S. Administration is friendly from our point of view. It is not hostile, and it has not caught its breath. We are monitoring it. But, one day it may turn into an enemy. God is victorious!

I told Clinton that you and I might fight, but for our part we consider you our friend, and I said that war has regrettably been imposed on us. We have neither hostile intentions nor hatred toward this new unknown young man who came from a small state and was against the Vietnam war. There is nothing to make us hate him. We would have hated him if the United States remained imperialist.

However, with the policy it is now following, America will lay siege to itself; it will become hated everywhere. Everyday it is launching appeals to its citizens in the Far East, in the Near East, in Egypt, in North Africa, saying to them: Be careful not to get killed, be vigilant. This means that the American is pursued everywhere, and this is admitted by America, by official communiques from the American Government warning its citizens everywhere in the world. Some 20,000 Americans in Egypt are living in fear. They told them: Be prepared to leave Egypt or look after yourselves. They cannot even go shopping. This means that the American has become hated everywhere, with death pursuing him everywhere. This means that America is killing itself, laying siege to itself. America, if it continues to fight the world, will be defeated. It will not be able to fight on 100 fronts, and even if it continues to support pro-American regimes America will be exhausted and defeated. Capitalism is coming to an end anyway, it will suffer a real and genuine collapse. America is the most indebted country in the world now. [passage omitted]

The Western states are collapsing from within, they are suffering crises that have nothing to do with Somalia, Bosnia-Herzegovina or Libya. The objective was to take over the sources of energy in the world. In this regard, we say to them: This is impossible, we say to them that at least as far as we Libyans are concerned we would fight and fight until we realize that we are losing the last trench and then we would set fire to oil. We would not burn it the way it was burned in Kuwait. We would burn it irretrievably, and Libya would become a desert without anything in it, just like Egypt: Divert the course of the river Nile, and it would become a desert where not even a hen can live. Take oil away from Libya and it would become a worthless desert.

If their aim is to take control over oil in Libya, or Iraq, or the Gulf then no: Peoples in these countries will fight for oil, and in the end they will set fire to oil. Therefore, the best thing to do is to deal with us on an equal footing; we will sell to them and buy from them. I think this is far better. I think that tourism, peace, trade, mutual respect and negotiations are better than provocations, confrontations, challenges, frictions, aggression, blockade, sanctions. We are warning the world, and these words undoubtedly will have their effect among both Arabs and non-Arabs. The Arab nation is obliged to stand up on the side of the Somali people because it is a unique case that has no legal justification whatsoever.

The Arab nation is obliged to stand with the Iraqi people who are being torn apart and humiliated. They are humiliated by the Israelis and not by the Kuwaitis at all—this must be understood by our brothers in Kuwait. This is not for their sake at all, it is a punishment to Iraq because it launched missiles against the Israelis. The poor Jews are being misled, and they must understand: This is the promised land, the promised land with death. We do not want death to the poor Jews. They should live. If they are charitable to them, they should give them charity away from problems.

There are already people in Palestine. Why should they bring in other people and impose them on others? This is the consequence. They must stop imposing views on peoples; their policy is: We will not give you aid unless you adopt a system which is like the Western one. Let people be free and have their self-determination the way they wish. If you want to give them aid, do so! If you do not, do not impose your views on them, just do not give them aid! This is the consequence, the one who adopts the view of the World Bank and has sanctions imposed on it collapses.

The world needs a serious pause. It has now entered chaos, but this will lead afterwards to the time when they will listen to the wise voice. The Arab nation has entered the spiral of violence, that is, violence which is not in its place. It is not liberation and has no plan or program, it is just violence for violence sake.

Libya can work for this end [against violence] and Arab unity is now inevitable after we have seen the danger of the jungle we are living in. Arab unity will always remain the responsibility of Egypt. I will tell you that if Jamal 'Abd al-Nasir had been born in Libya or Mauritania, by God, he would not have had this historical role. It is thanks to Egypt. Anybody [who is great] is born in it. Even Muhammad Ali, who is an officer from Albania, carried out a pan-Arab role in order to unite the region. Why is that? Because he was in Egypt. Salah al Din, whom you have heard of, was great because he set off from Egypt.

Now responsibility for the establishment of Arab unity is Egypt's, regardless of what is said about recognizing Israel and this and that and all these things, and if we hang on to these things, we will not move forward. Egypt must shoulder its pan-Arab responsibility and it is Egypt which must put forward the unionist plan. We will support it and be with it.

If unity is put forward from Libya, they will say that it is a revolutionary call and this is Al-Qadhdhafi wanting to set up an empire and this is an empire of...I do not know what! You have heard these statements. And the West would fear a call for unity put forward by Libya. We do not want anything. A Palestinian once said at a summit conference: Give us rifles and revolution and you can take gold, women, and the other things.

As far as we are concerned, we do not want anything. Let them just give us rifles and revolution and let them take the empire, gold, and all the things they like such as palaces and others. Whoever wants something can take it.

[Passage omitted] From the revolutionary point of view I will tell you that what I said on the sixth anniversary [of the revolution] and afterwards, and what I am saying on the occasion of this 24th anniversary of the historic revolution today. That is, that the past 20 years were an extremely important experience for the revolution, a prelude to the revolution. Because this revolution is an historic one, not just a revolution of one or two years, and the revolution begins now! I hope that what I said on the sixth anniversary is carried out, and that we will resort to constitutional legitimacy and democracy.

However, when the revolutionaries see that it will take 400 years for their society to become a civil society, a society that respects law, then the revolutionaries will resort to revolution and its methods; there will then be special courts on the streets, raids, marches. But I would like us to be careful: there is pressure for Arab unity which must be realized, there is pressure for confrontation with the West, there is pressure for purging. If you will allow me, Shaykh Zanati, in your capacity as secretary of the General People's Congress, I wish that on the occasion of the 1 September revolution, another session of the General People's Congress will be held to discuss the final version of its agenda and to submit it to the [Basic] People's Congresses. [passage omitted]

Today is a celebration of the anniversary of the revolution [applause], not a discussion of the agenda. Consequently we salute this congress because it convened to salute this day, to salute the revolution. My opinion is that the march of a revolution, as we have said at previous anniversaries, begins with the masses, with a democratic change, but it is a revolution, a real fierce revolution. The one who is able and confident of himself should be resolute and should continue. The one who is unable should say that he is unable, because the country is facing superpowers, as I said at the beginning.

We would like the problem, all the problems, to be solved in accordance with our vision and the good intentions we expressed toward them. But the wind could blow against the wishes of sailing ships. The colonialist states are afflicted with arrogance, a sense of greatness, and megalomania, and we do not know where their arrogance will lead them. Libya is not facing a siege; it is anembargo. I heard you talk about siege. A siege is when they bring air, sea, and land forces to besiege a country, as in the case of Iraq. No one comes and no one goes, be it ships, aircraft, or cars. Libya is facing an air embargo, that is all.

We draw America's attention [ar nabbah] to the fact that there is a difference between Lockerbie and Iraq. There must be negotiations on the problems between America and us, even on Lockerbie. Since there are negotiations on Palestine, there must be negotiations on Lockerbie. Since Libya is being called upon to implement the resolutions of the Security Council, the Israelis must be made to comply with Security Council resolutions. If the Israelis are not called upon to implement Security Council resolutions, we should not be made to implement Security Council resolutions. [applause]

Once more we salute all the brave people who took part in making this historic revolution. Shame on those who have let down the people, betrayed the revolution, sold themselves to Satan, and joined the enemy, urging it to return to its bases and colonize their country once more. Shame and disgrace on them. Glory, salutations, and regard to the revolutionaries of the great al-Fatih [applause] who remain loyal to the covenant. They are still with the people, struggling with the people, and preparing to fight with the people. We are not in authority; power is in your hands. But we are ready to fight. Forward! [applause]

### Addresses 2 Sep Congress

*LD0309185593 Tripoli Libyan Television Network in Arabic 2035 GMT 2 Sep 93*

[Address by leader Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi at a meeting of the General People's Congress in Tripoli on 2 September—recorded]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] British radio is government radio. The BBC is a government radio. Regrettably, when it attacks an Arab state, there is no Arab state that attacks Britain or its government or severs relations with it. Never. They accept this and say nothing.

Should these attacks come from an Arab radio, the other Arab radio [the victim of the attack] would sever relations with it, insult it, and spend millions to attack back. Why do they not spend millions [to attack] the Voice of America, [VOA] or the voice of Britain?

The VOA is a government radio. CNN, which is being watched by all the Arab presidents, belongs to American intelligence. It is purely a state-run station. The newspapers you hear of, THE WASHINGTON POST or THE TIMES, are government newspapers. They are not at all independent. I have given interviews and the government proceeded to censor some of my statements. THE TIMES was prevented from publishing an article which they had asked me to write. They said that the government prevented them because it is a government newspaper.

The Arabic Service of the London radio [words indistinct] is a government radio belonging to Britain, which would set up an Arabic service to show you. This [the BBC] was created when Germany created the Voice of Berlin to incite the Arabs to join the Axis. The Allies created this government radio in London to incite the Arabs to join them.

Yunis Bahri, the famous Iraqi journalist who used to say: Greetings to the Arabs from Berlin, provoked the English so much that they created the BBC to convey the voice of the British government, [bearing in mind that] Britain used to be the strongest member of the Alliance. It was the British government which set up this state voice.

Therefore, the London-based Arabic Service, which is insulting the Arabs now and exposing them without any reply from them, is a government radio. Should one Arab country insult another Arab country, you would immediately see the insulted one spending millions to insult its sister country back. Why do they [the Arab countries] not react to the Voice of America, which is a government radio, or react to the BBC, which is exposing them and completely removing their fig leaf? Dare they react to it now? [passage omitted]

On the 14th [as heard, presumably means 24th] anniversary [of the Libyan revolution] according to information available to me—a few thousand people who have lost their liberty in prisons will be released and they will be able to enjoy their liberty on this anniversary [applause]. These are people who have been convicted of ordinary crimes. As for crimes of treason, conspiracy, covert action, dealing with the enemy and foreigners—in my opinion these cannot be forgiven. God will not forgive polytheists. Other than that He forgives whomever He wishes to forgive. [passage omitted] Treason, conspiracy and [words indistinct] are polytheism as regards people's authority, revolution, and freedom. They are blasphemy as regards people's authority, revolution, and freedom. There is no forgiveness where blasphemy is concerned. [passage omitted]

I once again tell you not to depend on it [the oil], it is only a temporary commodity, and the whole world is fighting for it. Now they are threatening us so that we submit. They are threatening us by the oil: You Libyans either hand over your sons to try them in our country—a threat which has never been made before—or we will cut off your oil supplies.

Now this is before you, you have to put it in the agenda. You have to choose: Either you hand over your sons or they will cut off the oil. Either we accept this challenge or we surrender. One way or the other. All right then, let the whole of the Libyan people accept the challenge. [shouts in background]

That is it then. You put it before the People's Congresses. It is clear no matter what they say; it is clear. They are threatening us in a dirty and insolent way. They slander us every time. [words indistinct] What does it mean? It means that Libya depends on oil alone. The day we [the West] cut off the oil it will succumb. They will eat each other. Are we dogs? Probably this is what they consider us, our only preoccupation is our stomachs.

I am telling you like this very clearly regardless of the Libyan Foreign [Ministry's] failure to put you in the picture, as it considers it obstinacy. Radios of the world are repeating it every day and it is announced to the entire world: Either Libya hands over its sons or we cut off its oil supplies. You will see.

[Indistinct talk in background] [Qadhdhafi shouting] This talk must be uttered by the Libyan people clearly and give its seal of approval on it. [passage omitted]

God willing, the other law, in addition to the law on purging [as heard] and general amnesty concerning prisoners who have been pardoned ...[pauses] When we said that the hand of the thief should be cut off, and I do not know what, they said: Yes, even Libya is implementing the Islamic shari'ah. They thought this dates from today only, but these laws date from 1971. Immediately after the rise of the revolution, we said that all laws must comply with the Islamic shari'ah and we established the Koran as the shari'ah of society in 1977. It was before the apostasy which appeared in Islam and which is now in existence. It appeared, however, that these laws are really full of flaws and even contradict God's words.

With regard to the Islamic shari'ah, it is something which is in the Koran frankly. It is a sin only if we reject the Koran and consider it as not being the law of society and lay down natural law. But when you say that the Koran is the shari'ah of society, as Muslims, you cannot do without the text, you cannot contravene the things which are in the Koran. When the Koran says that you must cut off the thief's hand, in fact you cannot do anything else; God is the Almighty, you cannot. If it says that the thief's hand must be cut off then so be it. We have, however, found in the law which we laid down in 1971 paragraphs saying: If someone steals public funds, his hand should not be cut off. The stealing we fear is actually that of public funds; this is a very serious flaw. The first thing is that you have to cut off the hand of the thief who steals public funds because this constitutes a danger for us all and harms us all, more than the thief who steals from his neighbor where the harm is done to one person only. He who steals public funds harms the whole country.

Then responsibility has a law that specifically concerns it. If you have acquired something which is beyond your means, that means you are a thief and your hand must be cut off. For instance, you had a house and then left your job; then we found out that you have two houses. We looked at your salary and found out that it could not enable you to buy two houses; where did you get the other house from? Thus, you are a thief and your hand must be cut off.

Also with regard to illegal possession, as a result of this or that, you possess something illegally—before there was a fine, prison, and I don't know what else—no, illegal possession means stealing and your hand must be cut off and you must go in the street. We would not put you in prison and we would not provide you with food or drink. Prisons are now full of people who have stolen something, or were found in a state of drunkenness, and it is a case of just putting people in prison and providing them with food and drink. This is impossible and has attracted my attention; the number of people in prison for ordinary crimes such as stealing and drunkenness has reached 5,000. What is this? How come there are 5,000 young people eating and drinking and just sitting around? [passage omitted]

Someone came to me, and said: I, in fact, sold hashish because I am needy. This is need and in need lies freedom; he who acts like this has no choice. I said: Free someone from need and do not have prison for those in need. If we put anyone who does something in prison, we must know the reasons. Even for stealing, we must know the reason.

We cannot say anything about the things mentioned in the Koran. When it says 100 lashes, it is 100 lashes. When it says 80 lashes, it is 80 lashes; amputation, it is amputation; and [words indistinct] before the court, is written in the Koran. These are defined and they are called religious penalties [hudud]. These are not retributions [qasas], they are called penalties; that is, they have clear penalties in the Koran. [passage omitted]

These penalties are very clear and there is no escape from passing laws on flogging for these two crimes, amputation for that crime, the payment of blood money for killing by mistake, execution for premeditated murder, and so on. We cannot escape from this. As long as we are Muslims, we are forced to carry out these things. We have talked about these things from the first day of the revolution, but, regrettably, the laws which were formulated by some people left us with a hundred gaps in them. [passage omitted]

Drugs are weapons of mass destruction. Cannabis is like biological and chemical weapons; it is like the nuclear bomb. You formulate a law to the effect that any country which exports cannabis to us means that it has exported weapons of mass destruction to us, and, therefore, it is our right to strike it with a missile; if we had one of the mass destruction type, we must strike it with it. The whole world must know. If the Israelis deliberately exported cannabis to Libya, it would mean striking us with weapons of mass destruction, and if we had weapons of mass destruction, we should strike the Israelis with them. This should be clear. If America exported them, the same thing would apply. These are weapons of mass destruction, and whoever deals with them, this means getting a weapon from the enemy and exploding it in the middle of his country.

This falls under the law of smuggling and collaborating with foreign embassies; that is, an embassy of a foreign state brings alcohol and sells it to the Libyans and the Libyan goes to this embassy. It is possible that this Libyan takes secrets to it and gives it photographs, tapes, recordings, and information on the security of Libya in exchange for this alcohol. He who drinks alcohol should be directly charged with this accusation and taken directly to this cell, the cell for collaborating with foreign embassies and companies and smuggling; it is not just a case of alcohol. He should get 40 lashes for that. First of all the punishment of 40 lashes is not in the Koran. If he has made the alcohol himself—if you do not like this, fix any punishment decided by the people or the legislating society. This is in the case where someone has made the alcohol himself with local ingredients. If you do not like this, you can set up the punishment, you are free if you want to say let him get lost, so be it. With regard to alcohol produced abroad which is made in factories in foreign states and gets to Libya, if a Libyan takes it, when you find him drunk, you ask how he got it.

As for rumors and jokes, I have talked about their consequences. These are reported because they destroy society, its culture, and its values. It is a war and no one can betray us in the name of freedom. It is a war which they used against Jamal 'Abd-al-Nasir. [passage omitted]

When the air raid took place, and there were bombs on my head, London radio told you: al-Qadhdhafi has now arrived in Yemen and his plane was seen in Yemen. We were laughing while we listened to it. Then another lie was broadcast and they said: No, he is in Greece. Even if one had fled, could one at that time go to Yemen or Greece? It was in order to shake and destroy the morale of the Libyan people. It was to make people think that, as al-Qadhdhafi had fled, the Libyan people had just to raise the white flag. Then I would have come out and said: Brothers, why raise the white flag? I am here. You would say: By God, they betray us; they told us you went away. This was deliberate, the intelligence, America said: Quickly now, a rumor must be spread in Libya. Then, the lie became known, and when they knew that people found out it was all lies, they said: There is exchange of gunfire in Bab al-'Aziziyah. You have heard it on London radio [words indistinct] we took the journalist in the Grand Hotel, we said to him: Are you not the correspondent who reported this to your radio. We told him: Come to Bab al-'Aziziyah—and we took him there—look at Bab al-'Aziziyah, is there any shooting or anything, is there not just a steadfast force? He said: I heard gunshots and I thought they were coming from Bab al-'Aziziyah. We told him: You did not hear gunshots in Bab al-'Aziziyah, they have entrusted you with a mission and who has done so? They said to him: Quickly broadcast from the center of Tripoli that Libyans are in harmony with each other. It is over, rumors and jokes do not work any more.

The world is fighting with rumors; these things, these laws must be reported in these papers. We do not have time for rumors or for jokes, unless someone is hiding among us. As of now, we pull up our sleeves and work. Instead of my convincing the rulers of the Arab countries of the need for unity and support for the determination of the Palestinian people who are now about to enter a civil war, instead of the liberation of Palestine, they said: The West bank and Gaza. Instead of the West Bank and the Gaza Strip they said to them: Gaza and Jericho. This is the latest thing: the Gaza Strip and Jericho, a city called Jericho. Instead of devoting ourselves to these things—may God bless you—bear with me to discuss with you even these simple things, even rumors. Please note that in addition to the battle inside, we have a strategic battle abroad. We face superpowers, as I said yesterday, in a state of confrontation; when we strike, we strike strongly. Inside Libya, we must stand on the solid ground of work, production, and the one trench—shoulder to shoulder. The one who betrays us should be crushed. This is a confrontation with superpowers; God willing, we will triumph and whatever they do, we will triumph. Italy came with its armies on Libyan soil—they did more than just bomb us—and we are now liberated from Italy. America might bomb with its missiles—the long sticks of humiliation—they can cut off oil or anything else, they cannot stop the course of life. This is a simple thing, we have called it freedom on our soil and that is it, we cannot haggle over it. It is not a question of giving us a quarter or a fifth of freedom, we have called for complete freedom under the sun and on our soil and that is it, it is very simple. We are part of a very large organization of people who will triumph in the end. It is not only the Libyan people who are the target.

Yesterday I said to the Sudanese delegation, when I held a tea ceremony in their honor to greet them and thank them as they came to congratulate us on Revolution Day—Arab and foreign delegations also came to attend it— I said to the Sudanese delegation: Why did you stage demonstrations when they put you on the list of terrorist states, the list, according to which, Sudan is a terrorist state, why do you stage demonstrations? If Libya, Iran, North Korea, Vietnam, Cuba—they have added Sudan and Iraq—if these states are states of terrorism, terrorist states, this is an honor. Which are the states in the world which are freer than these? These states fight and wage a struggle; you should rejoice, rejoice that Sudan is no longer on the list of reactionary and capitulatory states and has been put on the list of honorable people and freedom fighters. [applause] The Sandinista Front is considered as terrorist, the Liberation Front, the Lebanese resistance, the Somali resistance are considered terrorist, thus the word terrorism has taken on another meaning now; that is it, there is no harm in it any more. We are terrorists—this does not mean anything because it directly means freedom fighters, fighters for justice, and it is legitimate fighting. They did it this way now, that is it. When I told them: colonization, an English teacher said: Colonization to us is a good thing. He was asked: Are you colonizers? He said: Yes, we are colonizers. I told him: Do you admit this bad thing. He said: What do you mean, it is a bad thing, how come? We are colonizers, inhabit land, yes, we are colonizers, we filled and developed these empty continents. He said: Why, what does it mean to you? I said to him: To us it is not a good word. He said: No, we are proud of it, we are proud to be a colonizing state and Britain was a colonizing state which colonized the world; colonization is a good word, it does not have the meaning you give it.

Thus, precisely, the word terrorism to them now means freedom fighters, it is not like what it means to us, thinking terrorism is not a good thing. No, it means freedom fighters, great, good, the word has changed to terrorism; freedom fighting has not got another meaning apart from terrorism. Why should Sudan get angry when it has been put on the list of honor? Are the Somali people terrorists now? They came to distribute food to them and have been distributing death and bullets to them every day; when they put up some resistance to them, they said: These are terrorists. [passage omitted]

## 'Text' of GCC Foreign Ministers Press Communique

*LD0709142493 Riyadh SPA in English 1236 GMT 7 Sep 93*

[Text] Jeddah, Sept 7, SPA—Here is the full text of the press communique issued by the GCC's [Gulf Cooperation Council] foreign ministers at the end of the 48th two-day session of the GCC's Ministerial Council in Riyadh on Monday [6 September].

"The GCC's Ministerial Council held its 48th session at the headquarters of the General Secretariat in Riyadh on 19/29-3-1414 corresponding to 5-6 September 1993 under the chairmanship of His Excellency [H.E.] Rashid Bin-'Abdallah al-Na'imi, the foreign minister of the United Arab Emirates [UAE]. The meeting was also attended by all members:

—H.E. Shaykh Muhammad Bin-Mubarak al Khalifah, foreign minister of the State of Bahrain.
—His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.
—H.E. Yusuf Bin-Alawi 'Abdallah, state minister for foreign affairs of the Sultanate of Oman.
—H.E. Shaykh Hamad Bin-Jasim Bin-Jabbur Al Thani, foreign minister of the State of Qatar.
—H.E. Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jabir al-Sabah, first deputy premier and foreign minister of the State of Kuwait.

The council sincerely congratulated the custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, and the Saudi people on the occasion of the announcement of the regulation pertaining to the blessed Shura march of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and nomination of the members of the council hoping that the historical and successful step would contribute to the comprehensive rise being witnessed by the Kingdom in all fields.

The ministerial council reviewed regional and international latest events and those of the region as the Iraqi regime continues to pursue a policy of procrastination and threat, violation of cease-fire clauses pinpointed by the Security Council Resolution 687, renewal of its expansionist claims against the State of Kuwait, threatening to renew the aggression, rejection of the Security Council Resolution 833 on the demarcation of borders between Kuwait and Iraq and posing continuous threat to security and stability of the region. While the council reiterates full backing of the State of Kuwait to embody the attitude of the collective security, it renews its unwavering position on the necessity for full compliance of the Iraqi regime to all resolutions of the Security Council in question and all articles of the Resolution 687, including those which call for the release of all prisoners and detainees of Kuwait and other countries, recognition of the international borders between Kuwait and Iraq, payment of reparation, restoration of all stolen items, facilitation of the missions of the international inspection teams assigned to remove the mass destruction weapons, commitment that it would never commit or support terrorism or any act of sabotage. The ministerial council calls on the international community to maintain pressures on the Iraqi regime until it shows full compliance to all international obligations as stated by the cease-fire conditions and all relevant Secruity Council resolutions.

While the council confirms anew its full keenness on the unity and territorial integrity of Iraq, it holds the Iraqi regime full responsibility for the bloody acts of suppress and humanitarian suffering being sustained by the brotherly Iraqi people as a result of the practices of that regime and its non-compliance to the Security Council Resolutions 706 and 712 dealing with food and medicine requirements of the Iraqi people.

The council also discussed relations with the Islamic Republic of Iran and reiterated its steadfast position of support and backing the sovereignty rights of the United Arab Emirates over the Greater and Lesser Tunb Islands and the Island of Abu Musa. The council asserts its absolute support of all measures and peaceful means that might be pursued by the UAE to restore its sovereignty over the three islands and expresses hope that dialogue between the two countries would remove all standing problems between them.

The council is following up with extreme concern the developments of the Middle East peace process, and expresses satisfaction over the resumption of the 11th round of the bilateral talks. It reiterates the contents of its statement issued on September 5 to welcome the draft agreement reached by the Palestine Liberation Organization and Israel as initial step towards the achievement of a just, lasting and comprehensive settlement for the Palestinian question and the Arab/Israeli conflict on the bases of the land for peace principle and the Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, the ministerial council calls for full Israeli withdrawal from the occupied Arab lands foremostly the holy city of al-Quds, guaranteeing the national and legitimate rights of the Palestinian pecople including their right to self-determination and laying of concerete foundation to ensure security and stability in the Middle East.

The ministerial council renews constant support for the peace efforts underway in the light of the agreed principles and expresses hopes that the negotiations will realise a substantial progress on all directions.

The council also reviewed the current situation in Somalia and expresses deep regret and grave anxiety over the deteriorating security situation over there. The council reiterates its keenness on maintaining the unity, territorial integrity and political independence of Somalia and urges the Somali brothers to facilitate the task of the U.N. and show cooperation with the international efforts aimed at enhancing the security and stability in their country. The council also hopes that the efforts being made by the Somali brothers would realise the national unity. The council expresses sympathy with the Somali people in its painful plight and hopes that peace and stability would be restored in that brotherly country.

Concerning the deteriorating developments of Bosnia-Herzegovina, the council expresses deep concern and resentment over the grave humanitarian suffering undergone by the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina as the result of the on-going brutal and vicious Serbian aggression supported by Serbia and Montenegro and condemns the nefarious crimes being commited by Serbs and their supporters against the Bosnians in violation to all U.N. charters and the international legalty.

At the same, time the council expresses extreme dismay and condemnation of the efforts being made by the Serbs and Croats to impose de facto status and run away with territorial gains by imposition of an unfair settlement on the Republic of Bosnia- Herzegovina at Geneva conference. The ministerial council demands that the Security Council and the European Community should take all measures to prevent rewarding the aggressor or giving the percussions of the aggression any legal status. The Security Council should make all necessary measures including implementation of that stated in Article 425 of the U.N. Charter's seventh chapter to restore international peace and stability and force the aggressive powers to compliance with the resolutions of the international legalty. The Security Council should also immediately undertake all necessary measures to enable the Republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina of practicing the right of self-defense in accordance to Article 51 of the U.N. Charter and lift the arms embargo imposed on it.

The council demands that the international community should tighten sanctions and intensify pressures on Serbia and Montenegro and calls for immediate intervention to lift the blockade on the city of Mostar and making it a secured zone.

The ministerial council also discussed the most important economic topics already reviewed by the specialized ministerial and technical committees since the last session including efforts being made to unify customs tariffs and stages reached by these committees on the matter to pave way for submission of the final recommendations to the upcoming session of the GCC Supreme Council which will be held in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

The council also reviewed the outcome of negotiations and meetings between the GCC states and other economic groups and the European Community in particular in the light of the results of the joint ministerial meeting held in Brussels on May 11, 1993 and the meeting held by the Joint Cooperation Committee in Brussels on June 16, 1993 on energy and enviroment issues.

## Kuwait

### Prime Minister Affirms Support for PLO-Israel Accord

*LD0809165993 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1500 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Excerpt] Kuwait, 8 Sep (KUNA)—Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, first deputy prime minister and foreign minister, said today that Kuwait is in full agreement with the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] in supporting the recent Palestinian-Israeli agreement. He told reporters today that support for the agreement was not confined to the Gaza-Jericho issue, "inasmuch as it is a first step toward a lasting comprehensive peace, in accordance with UN Security Council resolutions 242 and 338 concerning the Middle East." He added that this issue is equally of interest to the Palestinians and the Arabs, and "since the Palestinian constitutional institutions have endorsed this orientation, the GCC has blessed this as a first step which will hopefully lead one day, God willing, to a settlement of the Palestinian problem, including the issue of Jerusalem."

Regarding Kuwait's readiness to provide material support for the Palestinian-Israeli agreement, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad stressed that Kuwait has not yet been asked to provide such support. He pointed out that such a request will be studied if submitted.

Shaykh Sabah expressed the belief that the aforementioned agreement will not lead to the settlement of the diaspora Palestinians in the countries to which they moved following the Israeli aggressions on the Arab countries, pointing out that if a Palestinian state is established, it would be their homeland.

In a reply to a question, Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad said that mutual recognition by the Israeli and Palestinian sides will not directly lead to the Arab countries' recognition of Israel. He pointed out that the issue of recognizing Israel is linked to the recognition of Israel by the Arab countries that are directly concerned as a whole.

Concerning what has been said about Kuwait's attitude to the Arab boycott of Israel, Shaykh Sabah stressed that Kuwait will not give up its direct boycott of Israel. He said that Kuwait "has lifted the third degree boycott, like the other Arab states. [passage omitted]

## Saudi Arabia

### UK Foreign Secretary Hurd Meets With King Fahd

*LD0809190893 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1715 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Excerpts] Jeddah, 8 Sep (SPA)—The custodian of the two holy mosques, King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz Al Sa'ud, received in his office at al-Salam Palace today His Excellency Douglas Hurd, British secretary of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, and the delegation accompanying him. [passage omitted]

Douglas Hurd left Jeddah this evening after a visit to the Kingdom. [passage omitted]

## Hurd Holds News Conference

*LD0809195393 Riyadh Saudi Arabian Television Network in Arabic 1830 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Text] Douglas Hurd, British secretary of state for foreign and commonwealth affairs, informed journalists in Jeddah today that his talks with His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, the foreign minister, focussed on the developments in the peace process in the Middle East in addition to other issues.

At the beginning of a press conference he held in Jeddah today, Hurd said: We spent a lot of time on the peace process in the Middle East, and we agreed on the need for supporting the latest progress reached between the Palestinians and the Israelis.

With regard to the Iraqi regime, the British foreign secretary said: We were in full agreement with regard to Iraq, and this is that full compliance with the UN Security Council's resolutions is considered as fundamental, and without the UN Security Council, sanctions cannot be imposed.

He stated that the talks also covered the Bosnia-Herzegovina issue, and in this respect His Excellency Mr. Hurd said: Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal expressed his anxiety, which I understand and which I know is shared to a large extent in the Islamic world.

Assessing the tragedy in Bosnia, Hurd said that importance lay in supporting the political process and the humanitarian efforts to keep people alive.

He pointed out that the talks with his highness the foreign minister dealt with the latest developments in the Kingdom, including the setting up of the Shura Council, which he considered as a very important development.

He described his visit to the Kingdom as useful and stressed that the views of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Britain on regional issues were and would remain very close.

In his statements, he expressed his happiness in visiting the Kingdom and meeting His Highness Sa'ud al-Faysal for whom, he said, he had great personal respect. Hurd also covered other political, economic, and humanitarian issues in his statements.

### 'Well-Informed' Sources Confirm Execution of Officers

*PM0809154493 London AL-WASAT in Arabic 6-12 Sep 93 p 1*

[Unattributed report: "From Our Own Sources"]

[Text] Well-informed sources have confirmed that Iraqi President Saddam Husayn last week personally supervised the execution of 210 senior military men, among them 30 officers from Tikrit, for their link with an attempted coup, revealed to Saddam by an opposition figure living in Europe.

### Alleged Arrests of Former Ministers Reported

*JN0809153093 (Clandestine) Voice of Rebellious Iraq in Arabic 1400 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Text] Our informed sources say the regime of the defeated tyrant recently launched a large-scale arrest campaign affecting many Iraqis, in an attempt to stem popular anger and the overwhelming uprising against the [word indistinct] regime.

The sources said that among the victims of these hysterical arrests is Subhi 'Abd-al-Hamid, foreign minister during President 'Abd-al-Salam Muhammad 'Arif's era, and 'Abd-al-Karim Hadi, a former health minister.

On another level, and following the resignation of the regime's ambassador to Tunisia and his joining the opposition against the tyrant's regime, the authorities have arrested Ra'd Hamzah 'Alwan, one of the chiefs of the al-Juburi tribe and the nephew of defecting Iraqi ambassador Hamid 'Alwan al-Juburi. The authorities also arrested Radwan al-Juburi, a leading figure of the al-Juburi tribe in the al-Qasim district of al-Hillah governorate.

According to our overseas news sources, citing reliable sources, the tyrant has also arrested Yasin 'Alwan al-Juburi, brother of Hamid 'Alwan al-Juburi. Yasin 'Alwan was detained for four months by the tyrant's authorities and was released just before his brother's defection and plea for asylum in London.

### Defense Minister Visits al-Qadisiyah Military Units

*JN0709073393 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 2000 GMT 6 Sep 93*

[Text] Fighter Staff General 'Ali Hasan al-Majid, member of the Revolution Command Council and defense minister, today visited the headquarters of the al-Qadisiyah Forces, 3d Corps.

He met with the fighter staff major general commander of the 3d Corps, who briefed him on the nature of training and tactical drills conducted by the units. The 3d Corps commander noted the fighters' high morale and preparedness to protect the homeland from all forms and open chapters of aggression.

The fighter defense minister stressed the need for interaction in carrying out the plan of training and making use of tactical exercises with live ammunition to promote the performance of the fighters and enhance their combat capability to be always ready to discharge their duties.

He added that vigilance, caution, and vigorous action are the keys to the success of military units under all circumstances.

The meeting was attended by fighter Staff General Iyad Futayyih Khalifah, Army chief of staff; his assistant for operations; the commander of the naval force; and the comrade brigadier general secretary of the al-Qadisiyah Military Branch of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party.

### Regime Said To Suffer 600 Casualities in Battle

*JN0809194593 (Clandestine) Voice of Rebellious Iraq in Arabic 1730 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Text] A preliminary report from our mujahidin forces stationed in the marshlands of southern Iraq to protect the citizens from the tyrant regime's attacks on the marshland, says the Islamic resistance forces and the Islamic tribes confronted a large-scale attack by the 'Aflaqite forces against the al-Jazirah area in the south of the country in late August and early September. The report says the mujahidin and the rebels from our zealous tribes have so far inflicted more than 600 casualties and destroyed dozens of regime's vehicles.

The report adds that a number of Saddamist officers and NCO's were captured by our mujahidin farces in al-Jazirah area. The captured officers admitted that the criminal 'Ali Hasan al-Majid, the tyrant's defense minister, and the criminal 'Izzat [Ibrahim] al-Duri [RCC vice chairman], and other officials of the tyrant were supervising this unjust aggression against unarmed civilians of our steadfast people in the marshland and al-Jazirah.

Following his defeats by the mujahidin in recent battles near the al-Madinah district, the tyrant collected the remnants of its frustrated forces and tried to attack people in al-Jazirah on several axes. However, the heroes of the uprising and our tribes were lying in wait for the coward tyrant's attempts.

### Bombs Defused in al-Najaf Governorate

*JN0909095093 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1930 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Text] Baghdad, 8 Sep (INA)—The competent quarters at the Civil Defense Department in al-Najaf Governorate, 181 km south of Baghdad, have defused 54 intact cluster and fragmentation bombs and aerial plastic mines of different sizes and weights in Mamhajir [name as received] village in al-Manadhirah District and Mamand quarter in the provincial capital. These bombs were dropped by U.S. aircraft during its aggression against Iraq.

The director of the Civil Defense Department told INA in the governorate today that the total number of bombs defused this year amounted to 1,036 bombs of different sizes and weights. They were dropped by the states of aggression on villages, rural areas, residential areas, farms, and civil facilities throughout the governorate.

### Commentary Questions PLO-Israel Recognition

*JN0709192293 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1620 GMT 7 Sep 93*

["Analytical Commentary" by Nawwaf Abu-al-Hayja' from the "Spotlight on the News" program]

[Text] AFP announced today, Tuesday, that a PLO authoritative source in the Tunisian capital has informed its correspondent that mutual recognition between the organization leadership and the government of the Zionist enemy will take place within the next 24 hours. The PLO source said the recognition will take place through letters exchanged between Mr. Yasir 'Arafat and Yitzhaq Rabin.

It is noteworthy here that the PLO Executive Committee has not yet endorsed the formula of the agreement, which is called the Gaza-Jericho option, and that it will not hold its meeting, for this purpose, before tomorrow, or Thursday. This means the declaration of the mutual recognition will, very likely, take place before the Palestinian leadership makes its decision on the Gaza-Jericho plan.

This speedy mutual recognition will present the PLO Executive Committee with a fait accompli, particularly since most of the statements by the Palestinian factions affiliated with the PLO either rejected the plan or expressed reservations about it.

It is also noticed that representatives of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the Arab Liberation Front, and the Palestine Liberation Front have rejected the plan. In addition, poet Mahmud Darwish resigned from the PLO Executive Committee in protest against the plan, and Shafiq al-Hut asked that his membership in the committee be frozen. Therefore, the decision will not be taken with two-thirds majority, but, half the votes, in addition to the vote of PLO Chairman Mr. Yasir 'Arafat, will be in favor of the plan. Even within the Palestinian negotiating team, Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi rejects the plan. The plan was also rejected by six members of the Fatah Central Committee, including Faruq Qaddumi, 'Abbas Zaki, Hani al-Hasan, and others.

Zionist Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin reassured the Zionists about the Palestinians' ability to safeguard security in Gaza and Jericho, as he put it. He also affirmed that the Palestinians will have their own rulers. Addressing members of the Human Rights Society in the Zionist entity, Rabin said: Rest assured that your society will not go there to investigate into human rights violations, as they have their own rules.

Palestinian observers have expressed their astonishment and suspicions about this enthusiasm in Zionist officials' statements on the plan. They also noted the unlimited support for the plan from Britain, the owner of the Balfour Declaration, and the U.S. Administration, which launched the most bestial aggressive war in history against an Arab country, Iraq, in defense of the Zionist entity.

### Case of VOA Journalist's Dismissal Starts 11 Sep

*JN0709143593 Baghdad INA in English 1240 GMT 7 Sep 93*

[Text] Baghdad, Sept.7, INA—A court case against the Voice of American radio submitted by its excorrespondent in Baghdad Omar Jum'ah will be heard here on Saturday [11 September], a local newspaper reported on Monday. The case will be heard by al-Karradah Court in Baghdad.

Omar Jum'ah was illegally dismissed by the VOA during the U.S-led war against Iraq in 1991. The VOA alleged that reports Jum'ah used to air during the war contradicted those sent by the radio's correspondents in Kuwait, Riyadh and Washington.

The VOA used to edit Jum'ah reports, omitting everything about losses among Iraqi civilians and destruction of civilian installations bombed during the war. Jum'ah had protested against changing his reports by the radio. His stand against such changes led to his sacking by the VOA.

The Iraqi judge has sent a written letter to director-general of the VOA to attend to trial or send any one on his behalf but he refused. Therefore, the court will issue its judgement by default, the local newspaper said.

Mr Jum'ah has documents which prove that Kuwaiti, Saudi and American parties had requested the VOA to fire Jum'ah. Arab-American Journalists Union in the U.S had contacted the radio to know the reasons behind firing Mr Jum'ah, but the radio refused to comment, alleging that Jum'ah case is a personal one.

Mr Jum'ah said that the rejection of the director of the VOA to attend the trial is because he would not be able to deny the collaboration between the radio and rulers of some Gulf states who bribe the VOA in order to publish biased reports.

However, Mr Jum'ah lawyer said that the absence of the VOA director would not, whatsoever, hinder or influence the progress of the trial.

## Government Prepares for PLO Recognition Announcement

### Minister Shahal Previews Step

*TA0909122793 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1040 GMT 9 Sep 93*

[Telephone interview with Police Minister Moshe Shahal by Gay Zohar on the "As of Now" program—live]

[Text] [Zohar] Good morning, Minister Shahal.

[Shahal] Good morning.

[Zohar] Several minutes ago, our correspondent Dov Gilhar reported that he had received information that in a little more than an hour, the PLO will announce its recognition of the State of Israel. This will inject new momentum into the peace process, and a cabinet meeting will be convened to compare the PLO's declaration with all the relevant documents. If the document is then found satisfactory, there will be reciprocal recognition of the PLO by Israel. Is the government already prepared for this step, which is expected in the next few hours?

[Shahal] First of all, I must say that Mr. Gilhar is a reliable correspondent, until now at any rate. I do not wish to get into details now. If the signing ceremony is to take place on Monday [13 September] planned, then the timetable dictates that the parties issue their announcements today. Therefore, the answers must be received today if we are to know what we are signing.

I would like to reiterate that the document of principles is not conditional on mutual recognition. These are two separate issues. Apparently, the discussions now under way in Tunis are dealing with the approval of both the documents. In other words, all the details of the letters of mutual recognition-are also being discussed. To the best of my knowledge—and I may not have all the information—there are no particular problems with regard to the formulations. As far as we concerned, it is a take-it-or-leave-it proposition [last five words in English]. The authoritative Palestinian bodies that must decide will apparently complete their deliberations in accordance with a defined timetable.

[Zohar] That is a little strange. The Palestinians failed to conclude their debate last night but have still not reconvened, according to our latest reports. At any rate, we know that it will be a lengthy process there, as they have to reach agreement, and it is still unclear whether this will prove possible within a few hours.

[Shahal] Listen, we will not have to wait a long time. In light of the timetable, it is really only a matter of hours. It is very difficult to make predictions on this matter; neither would that be particularly helpful.

[Zohar] How will all this be implemented in practice? Will we suddenly see it happening on CNN or will some kind of news conference be held with the participation of Israeli correspondents in Tunis? How will it be done?

[Shahal] It will be done in such a way that all the world will know about it. I think that today the media is generally a few steps ahead of the more cumbersome political establishments. There are also contacts, and whoever has to know is constantly updated on developments.

[Zohar] Binyamin Netanyahu said—and I understand that Foreign Minister Peres did not address this issue from the Knesset podium—that Israel had actually given up its demand that the Palestine National Council change all the clauses in its covenant and would be satisfied with a declaration by 'Arafat. Is that enough?

[Shahal] Look, I regret to say that Mr. Binyamin Netanyahu is constantly and consistently misleading the public. I have never seen any Knesset member, not to mention party leader, behave in such a way. As for your question about the Palestinian Covenant, this document includes clauses that pertain to Israel. Our beef is with all those clauses that refused to recognize Israel's existence and security. We do not want to reach a situation in which we have to approve the Palestinian Covenant. Had we taken any other course, it would have been as though we were ratifying the other clauses. What interests us is one very major issue: We want the PLO to publicly recognize Israel's right to exist in peace and security, and we want the PLO to renounce all those clauses that reject Israel's legitimacy and expressly call for the support of terrorism and violence of any kind. We want this to be more than mere lip service. Israel wants the PLO to promise to make sure that there will be no more violence and terrorism. These are the relevant points. All the other things Netanyahu talked about are merely part of his intimidation campaign, which is based on the very worrisome assumption that the public has no sense.

[Zohar] Yes, but Ziyad Abu-Zayyad, whom we spoke with earlier, following Rabin's speech to the Labor Knesset faction, said that until the PLO is given control in the field, it will be unable to restrain those who ignore 'Arafat's call to stop the intifadah.

[Shahal] That, of course, pertains to the physical side of things, but there is also a declarative side of things which carries great significance. We are demanding that the PLO both issue a declaration and take action in the field. These are issues that pertain to the details. This still does not permit Binyamin Netanyahu to spread lies. I am sorry to say that the man simply does not tell the truth. It began a few days ago with his remarks about the number of participants in the right-wing demonstration, and it continues today with a series of complete fabrications, which, when asked about, he cannot even begin to explain. This is a worrisome phenomenon. Therefore, that is what I have to say with regard to Binyamin Netanyahu's statements. They are simply not true.

[Zohar] What about the ceremony in Washington on Monday? I understand that if everything indeed goes as planned, the ceremony will take place within a limited forum and not on a grand scale on the White House lawn. Will the Jordanians and Syrians show up?

[Shahal] I do not know. That is hard to say. We have not discussed the ceremonial aspects yet; the substance is more important now. I am sure that the U.S. Government will solve all these problems and decide on the formalities.

[Zohar] Who will sign on Israel's behalf?

[Shahal] That has not yet been decided. According to the media, it will probably be the foreign minister, if everything goes as planned.

[Zohar] We know that Israel and the PLO reached an agreed formulation after holding lengthy discussions last night. What held the agreement up in the past few days?

[Shahal] Just as in any body that conducts deliberations, there were attempts to alter certain phrasings. As far as we were concerned, we had but one answer: Israel will refuse to accept any changes in the agreed formulations. Therefore, the basis for the agreement and the approval of the documents was the agreed formulations. Those formulations agreed on previously had to be either ratified or rejected.

[Zohar] Thank you very much, Minister Shahal.

### Rabin Addresses Labor MK's

*TA0909090893 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0805 GMT 9 Sep 93*

[Address by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin to the Labor Knesset faction at the Knesset in Jerusalem; broadcast in progress—live]

[Text] ...As far as the Palestinians are concerned, the letter of invitation to the Madrid Conference, which serves as the basis for the negotiations, states that progress should be made in two stages. The first stage is called ISGA, the Interim Self-Government Arrangement [last three words in English] for the Palestinians in the territories. As is well known, neither the Jordanians nor the Palestinians were party to the Camp David agreements, and therefore they said that while Israel is bound by them, they are not. This is what they said even before the present move began. Therefore, the term autonomy does not even appear in the letter of invitation to Madrid or in the working papers with the Palestinians—both those formulated in the negotiations conducted by the previous government and during the period in which we have conducted the negotiations.

We invested these talks with new content, both on the Syrian and the Palestinian tracks. We changed our national order of priorities regarding settlements in the territories that are not located along the confrontation lines. We also changed the content of the negotiations. More than a year passed, and we saw that—the relative progress made with Syria notwithstanding; and progress was made, even if it was not expressed in documents—no significant progress was made with the Palestinians for one simple reason: the Palestinian delegation—which is composed of residents of the territories who are respected persons. They are certainly well respected by the residents of the territories. The departure of this delegation to the Madrid Peace Conference, however, was authorized by a decision of the Palestine National Council [PNC] in Tunis. The PNC is the body that gave them the mandate and dictated the positions presented in Madrid and afterward, both during the tenure of the previous government and the present government. Since the negotiations began, it was obvious that without approval from Tunis the Palestinian delegation could not move one inch. Even if there are differences of opinion within the delegation and outside the delegation in Tunis—and such differences of opinion do exist—the orders and decisions come from Tunis.

I would like to add that the Palestinians were affected by various processes, the primary one being the rise of extremist, Khomeynist Muslim movements in the Arab countries in contexts unrelated to Israel. The developments in Algeria and Sudan are completely unrelated to the Arab-Israeli conflict. Rather, they are part of the general problem faced by the Arab and Muslim world vis-a-vis the Khomeynist wave directed by Iran and supported by local nationalistic elements in various Arab countries that are riding this wave while preserving their national identity. In the last two years, the Palestinians have also been affected by this development, both within and outside the territories, as witnessed by the strengthening of Hamas [Islamic Resistance Movement] and Islamic Jihad.

We can notice two trends in the negotiations with the Palestinians. One, which was supported mainly by part of the residents of the territories, focused on the Jerusalem issue. The other evinced flexibility on the issue of Jerusalem during the interim period. Let me recall that the Camp David agreements do not include an Egyptian commitment to exclude Jerusalem from the autonomy period. There were different positions regarding this issue; there was no agreement on this. I want to add that during the preparations for the Madrid Peace Conference, an understanding was reached with the Americans—which does not appear in the written assurances [preceding word in English]—that Jerusalem should be under our sole rule during the interim-stage arrangement.

To the best of my understanding, we were confronted by at least two problems. First: Do we have a Palestinian partner with whom we can deal, seeing that agreements are meaningless unless you have a second side that can implement them? The situation here is different from that of the Arab states. Here we are dealing with a system that, regardless of what it purports to be, is still extremely unconsolidated. Second: We must ask ourselves what the main issues are. In my opinion, the central issues are 1. Jerusalem remains united under Israeli sovereignty, and under no circumstances will it come under the jurisdiction of the body—whatever it is called; in the paper it is called a council—that will run Palestinian affairs in the territories. This is the first thing; united Jerusalem is not included. 2. There will be no uprooting of settlements. No settlement will be uprooted. We do not want to repeat the trauma of uprooting settlements. 3. Our security—first of all our external security—must be maintained. The confrontation lines for Israel's defense will remain the present lines. The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] will operate along these lines to preserve our external security, whether this refers to our borders with Egypt or Jordan. Only these two borders are relevant to our agreement with the Palestinians, regardless of what address we are dealing with.

The second security aspect refers to responsibility for the security of the Israeli settlements. The third aspect relates to all Israelis, because the body responsible for conducting the Palestinian self-rule will not have authority over any Israelis. Not only the settlers but all Israeli citizens, wherever they may be, will remain outside the jurisdiction of this body. We are responsible for the security of Israelis. On the other hand, we are not interested in shouldering the responsibility for internal security in the Palestinian towns after the IDF withdraws from them and the body responsible for managing their affairs is set up, and once a Palestinian police is established for providing law and order in these towns. I think that the fact that the Palestinian police will free us of this responsibility will help us greatly. We do not want to be responsible for what will happen among the Palestinians in Gaza. I sincerely hope the appropriate tools will be found during the negotiations over the implementation; this will certainly be one of the main issues.

I would say that some 80 percent remains for the negotiations on the implementation. These issues and the options for the permanent arrangement remain as known. We are against a withdrawal to the 1967 borders, mainly in Jerusalem but also in other areas vital to Israel's security. Our position is based on territorial compromise. We are against the annexation of 1.8 million Palestinians. I believe that in the paper, we have preserved the options for negotiating the permanent arrangement on the basis of the Labor convention and its platform for the Knesset elections.

I would like to speak cautiously about how the Palestinians will preserve law and order in their cities. This is their own problem. They will be freed from constraints imposed by the Supreme Court and other bodies, because it is their own problem. Let them decide how they want to run their own affairs.

It is important to know what document we are talking about here: the declaration of principles, with its minutes and addenda. This was approved by the government and is closed and nonnegotiable. We have reached the realization and conclusion that we need a partner. Peace is not made with friends but with extremely unpleasant enemies. I will not try to make the PLO look prettier than it is. It was our enemy and still remains so, but negotiations are conducted with enemies. We reached the conclusion that today the alternatives among the Palestinians are either the PLO and its supporters, who support the agreement, or Hamas, which is opposed to it. We could also remain in the present situation, because there is no other Palestinian partner. If this is the case, there is no point in pursuing the peace talks.

However, it is inconceivable to conduct negotiations with the PLO without that organization changing its character and essence. That is why we have a document, which the PLO chairman will sign. It includes elements that have not yet been approved—although I assume they will be. These include recognition of Israel's right to exist peacefully and securely, a commitment to pursue peace only through negotiations and not by violence, a denunciation and renunciation of violence while undertaking to punish organization members who violate this commitment, and all those clauses of the Palestinian Covenant which negate Israel's existence will be inoperative and nonvalid [preceding three words in English]. This is a commitment to carry the change in the PNC, because Clause 33 of the Palestinian Covenant states that only a two-thirds majority of the PNC can change the Covenant. I am not convinced that the party that is making the arrangement with us enjoys such a majority in the PNC. This is the same PNC that approved, albeit not unanimously, the Madrid Conference.

We also wanted to prevent a situation in which the documents would include a reference to the PNC decision reached prior to the Madrid Conference, which served as the basis for the delegation and which gave it the mandate to participate in the Madrid Conference. That decision was very bad and includes points that contradict the declaration of principles. That is why we opposed any mention of that decision, as well as others—excluding those referring to the abrogation of the clauses in the Covenant.

How will these things be implemented, and what is the timetable? A third paper will include a commitment by the head of the PLO—after the declaration of principles is signed—to address the residents of the territories and tell them that a new period has dawned—a period of reconciliation, construction, and cooperation. He should primarily state his opposition to violence and terrorism. This is in addition to the paper in which they undertake, as an organization, to put an end to violence and terrorism, both within and outside the territories.

A month after the declaration of principles goes into effect, we will start working on two parallel lines, as stipulated in the Gaza-Jericho First plan. Our intention is to reach an agreement on the transfer of powers in Gaza and Jericho within approximately six months. The precise time frame is still unclear; it is not sacrosanct. The precise territorial framework is also not defined and is negotiable. We will try to limit this framework as much as possible. It definitely does not include the confrontation lines, the bridges, and the Rafah border terminal, because these involve our external security. The IDF will remain in Gaza to defend the settlements and provide external and internal security for Israelis. We are naturally interested in letting them deal with their own security problems.

Naturally, we will do this gradually. We will study their ability. We must sit with them on this issue. After the government approved the agreement, I directed the IDF General Staff, the Civil Administration, and the Israel Police to carry out preparatory work on the issue of Gaza and Jericho First.

At the same time, we are continuing the negotiations on the makeup of the council that is to manage the self-rule, its powers, and the modalities [preceding word in English] of elections. In the Camp David agreements, it is stated that after an agreement is reached, there will be a withdrawal of the Israel Defense Forces and the remaining forces will be redeployed [preceding phrase in English]. We changed the first part. There is a withdrawal in Gaza and Jericho, but it is not comprehensive. We will start implementing what is called early empowerment, but we will still maintain authority in the framework of the Civil Administration and the military government in the territories. We will probably implement a redeployment here and there as we approach the elections. I neglected to say that the Palestinian council will not have any authority over the IDF and its installations wherever it will be deployed for carrying out the missions agreed upon, both external and internal [preceding three words in English].

[Rabin continues in response to indistinct question posed by unidentified Labor member] Regarding elections to the council: nine months. By then, however, we must reach an agreement on the makeup of the council, the number of members, its structure, its precise powers. This is a complicated issue. There are various economic problems, and so on and so forth. We also must decide how to conduct the elections. We left one thing regarding the elections. The paper states that East Jerusalem residents can participate in the elections. Our position regarding this issue is unequivocal: They can vote but not stand for election. This point, however, is still negotiable. We still have not reached an agreement on this issue.

This means that we have a path along which progress will be made faster: Gaza and Jericho, mainly Gaza. There are no corridors [preceding word in English] or other such things. People who will be authorized will receive licenses for free travel. Before the closure, in fact, everybody could move freely between Gaza and the West Bank.

At this point, I have no intention of ending the closure. I think that the more than five months of closure have provided a feeling of security to 96 or 97 percent of the Jewish population of Israel and to 100 percent of the non-Jewish population. It has greatly contributed to personal security, and it has also created a better atmosphere for political moves.

These are the two paths. Now, we have here both the declaration of principles and the minutes. These two papers will be signed and will, in fact, constitute one entity. You are all familiar with the way of diplomacy; some room for play was left here.

Let me give you an example. The declaration of principles states that the council will have jurisdiction [preceding word in English] over Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza. This means that as long as there is no council, there is no jurisdiction beyond that stipulated for Gaza. Naturally, the issue of jurisdiction is with the exception of the issues of the permanent solution. [preceding sentence in English] I do not remember the precise wording. The minutes explain what this refers to: Jerusalem, the settlements, the IDF installations, and the Israelis. The minutes also state that the powers to be granted will refer to the agreement over the makeup and authorities of the council. So there are various interpretations here, and there are bound to be various interpretations in the implementation stage.

Thus, there are three main papers: 1. the declaration of principles with the minutes and the addenda, 2. the mutual recognition document, 3. a commitment regarding a verbal message to the Palestinian public in the territories after the signing ceremony. This commitment will include at least a segment of what is going to be said, which we must receive signed beforehand. This will include, as I said before, a statement against violence and terrorism, aimed specifically at the residents of the territories.

I believe that under the present circumstances, it was preferable to strive for a bilateral agreement. At the same time, we want to pursue the negotiations with Syria, Jordan, and Lebanon. This bilateral agreement, in my opinion, is the least dangerous to Israel's security, and I will tell you why. As a former military man, as a former defense minister in the national unity government, and as present defense minister, I distinguish between two threats to Israel's security. First, the threat to Israel's very existence has still not passed. It can find expression in action by Arab armies, and today I can add that one or more Muslim countries might join in. Second, there is a threat to our daily security posed by terrorist elements, including the various forms of Palestinian terrorism, including the PLO. There is also the intifadah, which I never considered to constitute an existential threat to Israel. It is simply an insult to the IDF to think that these things can constitute a threat to Israel's existence.

We opted for an interim arrangement with the Palestinians. Let me say clearly that I had qualms about it, but I reached the conclusion that there is no Palestinian partner other than the PLO, and this, too, only under certain conditions, as expressed in the declaration of principles and in what it undertakes to renounce and to implement, and we hope that those who sign the agreement will fulfill it.

I am not trying to blur the difficulties. I know it is simpler to give away the entire Sinai Peninsula, to uproot all the settlements, to demolish Yamit; then you know you are done. Here we will be trying an interim period as a test case [preceding two words in English] of the ability of the Palestinians and the organization representing them and us to coexist. They are one and the same. We will be trying to create a state of coexistence in which they will run their affairs and we will run ours, knowing the serious problems this will entail, both in terms of the opposition in their quarters and the opposition in our midst—at least among part of the Israeli public and certainly among the settlers in the territories.

We are trying to create a situation that is not the final word. The implementation of this phase must lead to a different form of coexistence than there is today between Israeli civilians, Palestinian residents, and Israel's military in the areas of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza. Of all the processes—I am not talking about Lebanon or Jordan—I consider this to be the least risky in order to give peace a chance.

The agreement consists of numerous details, and if I were to argue over its wording with Labor Knesset Member Yoram Lass, I am sure we would agree on it far more easily than when one has to argue over it with an enemy and a rival—I would say an enemy, not a rival, since until the agreement is signed, it remains an enemy.

I am sure that many people could have helped here and there, and that some of the wording is not very pleasant. However, one must look at the bigger picture, at the two-pronged approach: Gaza and Jericho first, along with the safety valves we retain, while building an interim arrangement, which is a longer process that will leave Judaea and Samaria in a different situation than that of Gaza until the process is completed.

This is how things stand. I will not go into the details. Perhaps Shim'on Peres will do that.

### Peres Urges Support for Agreement

*TA0909111493 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0845 GMT 9 Sep 93*

[Address by Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres to the Labor Knesset faction at the Knesset in Jerusalem—live]

[Text] I would like to say a few words. This was certainly a very dramatic night. In reaching the recent agreements.... [pauses] It is my duty to say that Yitzhaq Rabin was on no account prepared—and I was of the same mind as him—to agree to any concessions on the issues of violence and terrorism. No concessions. When we finished our discussions this morning, however, my thoughts were not only about the tremendous revolution that has taken place in Israel but also about the tremendous revolution that has taken place inside the PLO. Let us not belittle this development. We are not recognizing the PLO of yesterday but rather the PLO of today. There are things that the Likud did not even dream about: for example, the fact that the PLO will publicly announce the repudiation of all the clauses in its charter calling for the annihilation of the State of Israel and will present this decision to its authoritative bodies for official ratification. The PLO will condemn terrorism and declare that it will wage a war against terrorism and terrorists.

I remember how many Likud members said: Well, if the PLO were to change its covenant, if the PLO were to change its position on terrorism, if the PLO recognized.... [pauses] I would like to tell you that when I returned from London [in 1987], Shamir criticized me for not getting the PLO to recognize Israel's right to exist in the region. I considered that an insult. Do I need anyone's recognition? But I realized that this had become an issue, so this time we made sure that the PLO recognized Israel's right to exist in peace and security. Both Israel and the PLO carried out a revolution. This, in my opinion, is what enables us to start taking the first steps today.

I would like to say something else: We could have been satisfied with the declaration of principles [preceding three words in English]. This declaration was not made conditional on anything else, and the PLO made a commitment that even if only the declaration of principles were signed, it would call on the residents of the territories to cease terrorist activities. We were not trying to make some kind of business deal here, but both Yitzhaq Rabin and I remembered Churchill's wise advice: It is better to cross a chasm in one leap and not in two jumps.

This agreement should not be disparaged. I think that more than an agreement between leaders or institutions, it is an agreement between peoples. I am aware of the concern felt in Israel and the opposition among the Palestinians; however, I am also aware of the tremendous desire in Israel to end this conflict, and I am cognizant of the dire need of the Palestinians to improve their lives. They have reached a very difficult situation. I myself pray that next week we will give birth to twins: an agreement with the Palestinians, and also, as a result of our previous efforts, an agreement with the Jordanians. I do not know which form this will take, but there is a chance.

This is a historic moment. I repeat: We had to do the impossible. After the precedent set by the Likud with the Sinai Peninsula, we had to create an entirely new precedent on the issues of Jerusalem, the settlements, and security. At the beginning of the road, I did not believe we could accomplish it. It was so difficult. Everyone will say: Why are you not prepared to give us what you gave Egypt? Why were you willing to uproot the settlements in Yamit but not in the Qatif Bloc? Tell me, what is the difference between Yamit and the Qatif Bloc? On the contrary, Yamit was situated in an empty region, whereas the Qatif Bloc is surrounded by densely populated areas. Nevertheless, we insisted on these principles.

To the best of my knowledge, this is the first time that one position, albeit limited in time, and not three different positions was accepted on Jerusalem. This agreement constitutes a precedent. We distinguish between Jerusalem, the capital of Israel, which will always remain united—and there is a national consensus on this—and the fact that Jerusalem will remain open to believers of all faiths—and this must also be stated publicly; we require no lectures from anybody. Israel will maintain the institutions and protect those sites that are holy to Christians, Muslims, and, of course, to the Jews. This is already the case today.

Therefore I say that, in my opinion, the significance of this agreement lies not in its clauses but rather in its general substance and the philosophy behind it. We had to confront unbearable precedents and an impossible map. Yesterday, I was interviewed by an Irish television correspondent who begged us to come and resolve their conflict. [banter with colleagues] We are trying to resolve a conflict here, and one must look at the bigger picture beyond the operative dimensions of the agreement. Like Yitzhaq Rabin, I know that we have yet to face many difficulties. We do not wish to paint an overly rosy picture. The situation remains unclear. I spoke merely about the positive changes we have already brought about. I did not mean to imply that many more such positive changes would not be required in the future.

I would like to tell the faction members something: The prime minister is shouldering a very heavy burden of responsibility. I am also carrying a share of the burden, but everyone sitting here also shares that responsibility. This time, we must mobilize the people. I distinguish between the level of concern among the people and the Likud's spirit of negativism since the establishment of the state. Feelings of concern must be addressed and reassured, but the spirit of negativism must be fought. Today, we must start work on this, because this could constitute an unprecedented turning point in the history of the Jewish people and Zionism. For the first time, a window of opportunity has opened, and we must now pave the road.

## Peres on Mutual Recognition

*NC0909073393 London MBC Television in Arabic 2100 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Interview with Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres by MBC correspondent Mahir Shalabi in Jerusalem; date not given—recorded, correspondent speaks in Arabic while Peres responds in English]

[Text] [Shalabi] What rights does the Gaza-Jericho agreement grant to the Palestinians in comparison with the rights that the Camp David Accord would have given them?

[Peres] In Camp David there were many nice definitions but a great deal of foggy situations, very ambiguous. When you try to translate Camp David into realities, it is almost impossible. Here for the first time the Palestinians are immediately getting real estate, something that they can manage right away and at the same time continue the negotiations.

[Shalabi] The agreement states that the final settlement will be based on UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. The Palestinians and the Israelis interpret these resolutions differently. How do you explain this?

[Peres] Well, we started from a disagreement. We have overcome some of the disagreements. There is still work to be done in the future.

[Shalabi] How do you look on the opposition's reactions to the Israeli and Palestinian sides?

[Peres] Look, we shall deal with our opposition. You have to deal with your opposition. What I mean is that Israel does not have to fight anymore against the armed opposition that exists in the Arab world. Let the Arabs handle their opposition. When it comes to us, we don't have an armed opposition. We shall handle ours by outnumbering them, by having a majority.

[Shalabi] Do you envisage a meeting in the future between Mr. Rabin and Mr. 'Arafat to sign the agreement or to discuss issues connected with the two nations' future?

[Peres] It is not a matter of personalities. I don't know who will meet with whom but I wouldn't exclude the possibility that if the PLO changes some of the articles that have prevented us from recognizing it that we shall recognize the PLO.

## Rabin Adviser Dispatched to Paris

*TA0909054093 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0500 GMT 9 Sep 93*

[Text] The mediation contacts regarding the mutual recognition documents are continuing in Paris. Our political correspondent Shlomo Raz reports that in the contacts between the Israeli and PLO representatives, differences of opinion remain regarding the issue of terrorism and violence in the territories, including the issue of putting an end to the intifadah. On all the other issues, the gaps have been bridged. Prime Minister Rabin and Foreign Minister Peres held several conversations regarding this issue last night. It is believed that the differences of opinion will be overcome today.

Our correspondent in Washington reports that Jacques Neriya, the prime minister's adviser and a member of the Israeli delegation to the talks with Syria, has left for Paris to participate in the mediation talks. The Norwegians are also pursuing their involvement, with a senior envoy slated to arrive in Tunis today.

## Minister Der'i Resigns; SHAS Quits Government

### Resignation Effective 14 Sep

*TA0809155693 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1517 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Report by political correspondent Shlomo Raz]

[Text] I have received information indicating that Minister Arye Der'i will resign from the government on Sunday [12 September] in accordance with a law whereby ministers can only resign during a cabinet session—next Sunday, in this instance. The resignation will go into effect 48 hours later, namely, on Tuesday.

The question asked by everyone today was whether Der'i would resign himself, or whether he would receive a dismissal letter from the prime minister. As said, it was decided at a meeting between Minister Der'i and the prime minister, which was attended also by Minister Hayim Ramon and senior prime minister's bureau staffers, that Arye Der'i himself would resign on Sunday. As of Tuesday, Arye Der'i will cease being a minister.

We have as yet to hear what is to happen with Deputy Minister Refa'el Pinhasi and what SHAS [Torah Observing Sephardim] will do with regard to the political process. According to my information, Minister Arye Der'i said the decision is entirely up to one man—Rabbi 'Ovadya Yosef—and he was therefore unwilling to speculate on SHAS' next move.

It should be remembered in this context that the Agudat Yisra'el Council of Torah Sages has also deferred its political decision. It issued a statement in which it refrained from making any commitment whatsoever.

### Rabin: Resignation Endangers Peace

*TA0809195993 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew 1900 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Text] Our correspondent Nitzan Hen learned from Rabbi 'Ovadya Yosef's residence a short while ago that Rabbi Yosef does not intend to appoint a replacement to Minister Der'i as the SHAS [Torah Observing Sephardim] representative in the cabinet in the near future. It was further learned from Rabbi Yosef's residence that his decision about the SHAS support for the peace agreement will not be linked to the High Court ruling on Der'i and Pinhasi, although SHAS will have to reconsider its future in the government and the coalition.

Reacting for the first time to Minister Der'i's resignation, the prime minister told us in an exclusive interview tonight that this was an unfortunate coincidence endangering the peace process at the very moment when a historic opportunity to make peace with most Arab countries presented itself.

Our correspondent has learned that the Prime Minister's Office director general has already held several telephone conversations and meetings on the future of the coalition with Rabbi 'Ovadya Yosef, but the rabbi has not supplied a definitive reply.

Our political correspondent Gadi Sukenik interviewed Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin tonight:

[Begin recording] [Rabin] I deeply regretted the circumstances that brought about the resignation of Minister Der'i, whom I deeply respect as a man and as an efficient minister, an exemplary public servant in his various posts, particularly at the time I knew him as cabinet minister. The coincidence of this years-old story emerging at this time, a story for which this government is in no way responsible, no doubt caused Minister Der'i to submit his resignation. There is no doubt that it is liable to harm the chance for peace.

[Sukenik] Then you have no guarantee that SHAS will remain in the government?

[Rabin] I have no guarantees; all I have is hopes.

[Sukenik] What is your reaction to the criticism—the harsh criticism—leveled by the High Court of Justice at your stand in this affair?

[Rabin] I am accountable to my electors and not to anyone else.

[Sukenik] Including the High Court of Justice?

[Rabin] I am in favor of having the rule of the law. They can rule on law-related things, but everything related to my public responsibilities, my responsibility to achieve the goals I presented to my electorate—for all that I am accountable to the electors alone, and no one else. [end recording]

Yitzhaq Rabin made these remarks at a Rosh Hashana reception for the diplomatic corps.

### Deputy Ministers Also Resign

*TA0909131993 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1300 GMT 9 Sep 93*

[Text] SHAS [Torah Observing Sephardim] has decided to quit the government, and Deputy Ministers Arye Gamli'el and Moshe Maya will inform their ministers about their resignation. At the end of the faction's meeting, Rabbi Gamli'el told our correspondent Gil Litman that the status of SHAS in the coalition and its vote on the peace agreement would be discussed by Prime Minister Rabin and SHAS leader Rabbi 'Ovadya Yosef in a meeting either tomorrow or on Saturday [11 September].

## November Elections Option Discussed

*TA0909131593 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 9 Sep 93 pp 1, 15*

[Excerpt] Israel's political scene is in turmoil following Interior Minister Arye Der'i's resignation yesterday.

There was speculation last night in Labor party circles about the possibility of holding snap elections in November.

One of the possibilities is to "tack" the general elections for the Knesset onto the municipal elections slated for 2 November. This may happen in the event that the agreement with the PLO is signed in the coming days and if there is a feeling that a majority of the public supports it.

Senior Labor party officials last night refused to officially confirm this possibility, and some of them even rejected it. Nevertheless, YEDI'OT AHARONOT has learned that the matter has been discussed at the highest levels. [passage omitted]

### Rabin's Office, Likud Issue Statements on Deportees

*TA0909092593 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0850 GMT 9 Sep 93*

[Text] Against the background of the return of 189 deportees to Israel today, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin's office issued an announcement a few minutes ago stating that terror must stop in order to create the appropriate atmosphere for the peace talks that are currently under way. Above all, the Israeli Government is committed to the personal safety of Israel's citizens. The government and security forces will not stop their struggle against those who perpetrate terror and foil the peace process. It is to be hoped, the announcement states, that those who spent the last few months in Lebanon have learned their lesson and know that the Israeli Government will not sit idly by in the face of manifestations of violence and terror against its citizens; neither will it hesitate to adopt unusual measures against their perpetrators.

In contrast to this announcement by Rabin's office, the Likud announced a few minutes ago that the deportees' early return proves that the Rabin government is simply incapable of withstanding pressures and defending positions it decided on itself. The return should be a warning regarding the emerging agreement with the PLO and the ability of this government to defend Israel's security interests.

### Jordan Said Seeking Permission To Use Airspace

*JN0709190893 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Arabic 1730 GMT 7 Sep 93*

[Excerpt] Transportation Minister Yisra'el Qeysar has revealed Jordanian authorities have informed their Israeli counterparts that they are interested in launching an air route between Israel and Amman and Petra, and in getting a permission for Jordanian planes to use Israeli airspace in their West-bound flights, to fly over the Mediterranean. Qeysar made these statements in an interview with our correspondent Dani Levi. [passage omitted]

## Measures Taken To Stem Palestinian Exodus

*JN0809131193 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Randa Habib dispatch from Amman]

[Text] Jordan has taken preventative measures to hold off the flow of Palestinians into its territory across the King Husayn Bridge after Israel has begun encouraging the citizens to leave by reducing the fee for travel permits from 120 Jordanian dinars [JD] to JD28, and reducing the age of the Palestinians allowed to leave from 50 years old to 25 years old.

In line with the Jordanian measures, which are supported by the PLO and which are aimed at preventing the emptying the occupied territories of their indigenous people, Amman yesterday returned scores of citizens from Gaza who carry restricted permits. Jordan considers these permits a means of camouflaged displacement because holders of these permits are not allowed to return until nine months or three years after their departure, depending on the period stated in the Israeli permit. In this way, Israel has systematically displaced 57,000 Palestinians since 1968 who are now stuck in Jordan because of Israel's refusal to renew their permits after they expired. Jordan is demanding the immediate return of these people within the framework of the peace negotiations.

Jordanian Prime Minister 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali last week stated that, if necessary, his country will not hesitate to take all necessary measures on the bridges to prevent a mass exodus into Jordan.

## Prince Views Implications of PLO-Israel Accord

*JN0909085293 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 9-10 Sep 93 p 1*

[Text] (J.T.)—His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hasan, the Regent, Wednesday reiterated Jordan's support for the independent Palestinian choice and said Jordan should guard its national interests.

In two separate meetings with Jordanian politicians and with the local press, Prince Hasan described the Gaza-Jericho accord as a historic breakthough for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) but called for an objective assessment of the agreement and its implications.

He dismissed suggestions that Jordan's position was dictated by its apprehension from the independent Palestinian national identity and criticised arguments, both in support or against the accord, that emanate from such fears.

"Any attempt to interpret the concept of Jordanian rejection or promotion of the Jericho-Gaza First (option) on the basis of Jordan's fear of the independence of the Palestinian national identity is a futile attempt to take the Jordanian position out of its context," Prince Hasan said.

The prince was referring to press commentaries and statements that imply that Jordan's acceptance or rejection of the Israeli- Palestinian accord is based on either Jordan's interests in disassociating itself from the Palestinian cause or fear from a forced Israeli transfer of Palestinians to the East Bank.

The regent argued that Jordan could not harbour such fears since it has contributed to the independence of the Palestinian national identity starting from its acceptance of the 1974 Arab summit resolution that the PLO was the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and finally by declaring its disengagement from the West Bank in 1988.

He stressed, however, that Jordan had taken those historic steps to pave the way for Palestinian sovereignty and not to give Israel the chance to assert its own control or sovereignty over the occupied Arab territories.

The prince gave a relatively detailed analysis of the accord, including its potential negative implications, but said that Jordan was not judging the Israeli-Palestinian agreement on the basis of scenarios about the final outcome but according to the agreed-upon provisions.

He said that the accord, as a first step towards Palestinian self-determination, is consistent and an extension of Jordan's policies. But he voiced concern that the accord could lead to an Israeli rearrangement of its colonisation of the occupied territories.

During the two meetings the prince spelled out a number of reservations regarding many aspects of the accord that could have serious repercussions on Jordan, the Palestinians' national rights and the status of Jerusalem.

Some of the major aspects in the Israeli-Palestinian accord of concern to Jordan, according to the prince, are the following:

The uncertainty of the final outcome, especially that a new government led by the hardline Likud Party could either undermine the accord or turn what is supposed to be an interim period into a permanent one.

—The provisions in the accord, particularly the annexes concerning Jordanian-Palestinian economic cooperation that define regional cooperation.

—Concern that Israel will exploit Jordan's relinquishing of its responsibility over the West Bank in its favour. "Jordan relinquished its responsibility in favour of Palestinian sovereignty and not for Israeli sovereignty."

—Issues that were originally agreed upon to be dealt with at the multilateral talks, have not now become part of the bilateral Israeli-Palestinian negotiations.

—Reservations that any single party, including the Palestians, should exercise a monopoly on the Jerusalem issue.

—Some hawkish Israeli leaders will try to exploit the accord to impose a de facto fragmentation of the West Bank inspite of the accord's reaffirmation of the integral unity of the occupied territories.

Reiterating Jordan's respect of the independent Palestinian decision the prince argued that it did not mean that Jordan was not directly concerned with the Israeli-Palestinian relationship. "We are directly concerned in the Israeli-Palestinian relations...stability in Gaza is of concern to us...we do not raise (the issue) out of illusions about a mass (Palestinian) immigration, as some have put it...but because Jordan plays a nationalist and vital role...thus it cannot ignore instability or chaos in the neighbouring areas," the prince said.

"...Jordanian national security dictates that development should be regional...i.e. directed to develop the whole region," he said, expressing indirect concern about the current U.S. and European campaigns to raise funds for the proposed Palestinian autonomy without taking into consideration the region as a whole.

### Notes National Security Concerns

*JN0809190493 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Report by Hani al-Badri from al-Hashimiyah Palace in Amman; passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Excerpts] In a frank and open address to the president and members of the Senate and several Jordanian political figures at al-Hashimiyah Palace today, His Highness Crown Prince Hasan stressed that Jordan has always been the inheritor of a message in its continuous endeavor to ensure the Palestinian Arab people's right to self-determination. He affirmed that the attempt to base Jordan's rejection or acceptance of the Gaza-Jericho First agreement on the perception that Jordan is fearful of the independence of the national Palestinian character is a miserable attempt to separate the premise of the Jordanian stance from its conclusion. His highness recalled that Jordan contributed to and made sacrifices to develop this character and defend its independence when it responded to the Arab demand and the PLO insistence at the Rabat summit of 1974 to ensure that the Palestinian people have a sole representative. This decision was without precedent in the history of national sovereignty. He recalled that his majesty the king warned against the dangers that might ensue as a result of that decision.

"Jordan, with it people and pan-Arab makeup, is a model to be emulated. It stands in a position to influence others, rather than to be influenced. When His Majesty King Husayn met the desire of the Arabs and the insistence of the PLO in 1974, and when he supported the intifadah and decided to disengage legal and administrative links with the West Bank in 1988, he meant that Jordanian sovereignty—legal sovereignty over the West Bank and Jerusalem—should be turned over to the Palestinians, rather than to be in the interest of Israel. Jordanian sovereignty is not meant in the political sense, but in its legal sesnse, which includes protecting Arab rights."

His highness recalled some questions regarding the illusions of a substitute homeland and a substitute regime. His Highness affirmed that Jordan is the first Arab state in which an Arab political system was established in contemporary Arab history, and that Jordan with its people and pan-Arab makeup constitute a model to be emulated, and that it stands to influence others rather than to be influenced.

"He who assumes that the Jordanian stance stems from a defensive idea and bases his calculations on the promotion of the idea of the substitute homeland, substitute rule, and substitute regime is extremely mistaken. Some may forget a fact. But I would like to note here that in contemporary history, perhaps the first political Arab system was established here in Jordan. It is important to recall that the Jordanian political system, which was established by the founder grandfather, the late 'Abdallah Bin-al-Husayn, may God have mercy on him, was established before all the Arab systems that now exist. With its people and its pan-Arab makeup, Jordan stands as an example to be emulated. It stands to influence others rather than to be influenced."

Discussing Jordanian national security, his highness affirmed that that we are directly concerned about the overall Palestinian-Israeli relationship because of Jordan's pan-Arab role and the lebensraum of its political move.

"Based on our understanding of the reality, we must note that Jordanian national security is directly concerned about the overall Israeli-Palestinian relationship. The stability of Gaza, for example, concerns us and affects us directly. We are not saying this on the basis of the illusions of a mass exodus only, as some had proposed—an important point to which I will return later—but rather because Jordan has a pan-Arab role and a lebensraum for its political action. Therefore, based on its pan-Arab commitment, Jordan cannot ignore the stability or lack of it in neighboring areas. Understanding our state's national security, we are concerned."

Referring to the Palestinian-Israeli self-rule agreement, His Highness Price Hasan said that the Gaza-Jericho First agreement constitutes an important breakthrough for the PLO. This is because it changed the situation and role of the PLO in the peace process. His highness added that the agreement touched on the question of Jerusalem, but it confined the determination of its legal status to the Israelis and the Palestinians, as is the case with regard to other important issues of regional dimensions concerning neighboring states in general and Jordan in particular. [passage omitted]

After his meeting with the Senate president and members, his highness met with the directors of media directorates, the chief editors of daily and weekly press, and a number of journalists. His highness the crown prince stressed the mass media's national responsibility. He said they are not required to be neutral or to be a shadow of the political process.

"Frankly speaking, the national mass media have a major national duty. They are not required to be neutral or to remain a shadow for the political process in Jordan. The mass media are a party to all Jordan's vital interests. They develop concepts. Hence our meeting today, following the footsteps of His Majesty King Husayn. The mass media help decisionmakers make their decisions. They do not need politicians' custody or control. The mass media should follow up the supreme national interests, monitor public opinion, fend off false accusations objectively and honestly, and rise to the level of the message they are honored to express. We do not need mass media to amuse us. Neither do we need media of slander, condemnation, etc." [passage omitted]

## IAF Attacks Gaza-Jericho 'Conspiracy'

*JN0909090593 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 9-10 Sep 93 p 3*

[Text] (J.T.)—The Islamic Action Front Party (IAF) Wednesday attacked the Palestinian-Israeli Gaza-Jericho agreement as a conspiracy directed against the national security.

Recalling that the IAF has throughout opposed to the Middle East peace talks, the IAF said in a statement Wednesday that the negotiations have led to granting the Palestinians control over a two per cent of Palestinian territory.

"This is a conspiracy which transcends Palestine because it indeed threatens the Arab and Islamic countries' security and drives the Palestinians into further despair," said the IAF statement.

"It is the duty of all national and Islamic groups to confront the Gaza-Jericho conspiracy because this agreement will impose Zionism's economic, cultural and political hegemony over the Arab countries," said the statement. "The Gaza-Jericho First agreement is bound to deny the Palestinians their national identity and open the door for their eviction from their country," it said. "The PLO- Israeli agreement is a Zionist attempt to create what has been called the substitute homeland for the Palestinians, paving the ground for evicting the Palestinian people into Jordan thus threatening the security of the Palestinian and the Jordanian people," charged the statement.

Attacking the PLO for going behind the back of the Palestinian institutions in reaching the agreement with Israel and the Egyptian Government, which, it said, colluded with the U.S. Administration in this conspiracy, the IAF statement said that the signing of the Gaza-Jericho First agreement would serve as a black day in the history of the Palestinian problem.

Referring to the Jewish settlements as constituting a permanent threat, the statement accused the Palestine Liberation Organisation of striving to end the intifadah and ensuring Israeli presence on Palestinian lands.

The statement urged the Jordanian Government to withdraw its delegation to the Middle East peace process and called on the PLO to stop what it called the tragedy-comedy force.

It also encouraged the groups opposed to the agreement to join forces and abort the conspiracy.

## U.S. Delegation To Assess Impact of Iraq Embargo

*JN0909092193 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 9-10 Sep 93 p*

[By a JORDAN TIMES staff reporter]

[Text] Amman—An American delegation arrived here Wednesday for talks with Jordanian officials on the impact of the sanctions against Iraq on the Kingdom's economy.

The team is headed by State Department inspector and career diplomat David Newton and includes officials from the Treasury Department and Pentagon.

The delegation's visit comes in realisation of a promise made by U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher during his talks with His Majesty King Husayn in the course of a Middle East mission in August.

The State Department said in a statement issued Tuesday:

"Following recent visits by King Husayn of Jordan and Prime Minister 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali to Washington, D.C., and by Secretary Christopher to Amman, the United States is sending a team to Jordan this week to continue our discussions with Jordanian officials on ways to enhance enforcement of United Nations sanctions against Iraq by the government of Jordan.

"The team will also discuss with Jordanian officials possible ways to ameliorate the negative economic consequences of strict enforcement, without in any way compromising the integrity of enforcement mechanisms.

"We will, of course, consult with the United Nations and our allies in our findings and ideas before taking any action which might affect activities governed by United Nations Security Council resolutions."

Jordanian sources said the government had prepared a "comprehensive" report to be submitted to the American delegation. The report, drawn up by the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ), contains the various negative consequences of the sanctions on Jordan, including lost revenues and additional economic burdens.

"The overzealous enforcement of the inspection of al-'Aqabah-bound shipping is one of the key elements in the report," said one of the sources, noting that such inspections have led to economic losses for Jordan's public as well as private sectors in terms of additional freight and insurance costs as well as costly delays.

One of the ideas expected to be raised during the American delegation's talks here is "self-monitoring" of the sanctions against Iraq.

Under the proposal, Jordan will ensure that no goods in violation of the sanctions enter or leave Iraq through Jordanian territory or, and such an arrangement could do away with or reduce the inspection on high seas of ships heading for and leaving al-'Aqabah.

It was not known how the Americans viewed the proposal. In mid-1992, Jordan turned down a U.S. suggestion that international observers be deployed in the Kingdom's territory, saying such a move would be a violation of its sovereignty and would raise question marks on the credibility of its international undertakings.

Since then, however, Jordanian-American relations have improved considerably and very little traces remain of the strain caused by the Gulf crisis and American accusations that contraband goods were reaching Iraq through Jordan.

The Clinton administration has certified to Congress that Jordan is adhering to the sanctions and that the administration was taking the Kingdom's assurances seriously.

Such certification has cleared the way for release of American aid to Jordan.

Finance Minister Sami Qammuh told businessmen Monday that the government had made all arrangements for the American delegation to "meet all concerned government and private sector institutions" so that the team could get a clear picture of Jordan's losses from the sanctions on Iraq.

### Yemeni Minister Backs Call for Arab Summit

*JN0809115593 Amman Radio Jordan in English 1100 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Text] Yemen has voiced its support for his majesty the king's latest call for an Arab summit to discuss current regional developments.

Yemeni Foreign Minister Muhammad Salim Basindwah also said his country supports the draft agreement between the PLO and Israel on Palestinian self-rule in Gaza and Jericho.

Mr. Basindwah made the remarks upon his arrival this morning in Amman on a three-day visit to Jordan. The Yemeni official spoke to Jordan television's reporter Maha al-Sha'ir on his visit:

[Begin recording] [Al-Sha'ir] Your excellency, can you tell us about your visit here to Jordan?

[Basindwah] I am coming here in response to an invitation from my colleague, minister of state for foreign affairs in Jordan.

[Al-Sha'ir] And do you hope to achieve specific things?

[Basindwah] We hope to exchange views, especially at this very critical time.

[Al-Sha'ir] Can you tell us what is your country's position regarding Gaza-Jericho First?

[Basindwah] We support whatever our brothers, the Palestinians, choose to make or to take.

[Al-Sha'ir] His majesty the king, a couple of days ago, called for an Arab meeting, Arab conference, so as to coordinate the efforts before any such move, peace moves are achieved. What is Yemen's position?

[Basindwah] Well, the Republic of Yemen supports the call of his majesty the king for an Arab summit conference. [end recording]

### Need To 'Clear Arab Atmospher' Stressed

*JN0909072893 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 2000 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Text] The Jordanian and Yemeni Governments have stressed the need to develop cooperation and relations between the two fraternal countries. His Majesty King Husayn and his brother His Excellency President 'Ali 'Abdallah Salih used the framework of the desire to achieve Arab solidarity and clear the Arab atmosphere, during this particular stage facing the Arab nation, to lay the foundations.

This effort was announced during a session of talks held at the Foreign Ministry this evening between the Jordanian side, headed by Talal al-Hasan, minister of state for foreign affairs, and the Yemeni side, headed by Muhammad Salim Basindwah, the Yemeni foreign minister. During the meeting, al-Hasan reviewed recent developments in the peace process, the 11th round of peace negotiations, and the Palestinian-Israeli accord. He reaffirmed Jordan's commitment to the peace process and the principles on which it is based. The minister expressed Jordan's support for the Palestinian brothers and its respect for the independence of their national decisionmaking.

During the meeting, the two sides reviewed the Arab situation. They had identical views on the need to seek Arab solidarity. The two sides stressed the importance of and their concern over democratic life in the two countries. Moreover, the two sides thoroughly reviewed bilateral relations and means to develop them to serve the good and interest of the peoples of the two fraternal countries.

### Russian Envoy Arrives for Talks 8 Sep

*JN0809203493 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Text] Dr. Viktor Posuvalyuk, chief of the Near Eastern and North African Countries Administration at the Russian Foreign Ministry, arrived in Amman today via the al-Ramtha border post on a two-day visit to Jordan. The Russian envoy told a Jordanian News Agency correspondent that the objective of this visit is hold consultations with Jordanian officials on the current situation and international developments. He said his visit is aimed at exchanging views with Jordanian officials to develop Jordanian- Russian relations. He said: We attach great importance to bolstering these traditional relations. We see broad prospects for that. As for the peace process, Moscow, as one of the two cosponsors of the peace process, attaches special importance to consultations with Jordan as one of the parties to the peace process, especially at the current stage after the emergence of important developments on the Palestinian-Israeli track.

He affirmed that Russia wishes to listen to Jordan's views, and that it is the duty of the two cosponsors to exert all possible efforts to ensure tangible progress on other tracks of negotiations. To that end, he said, we are interested in exchanging views with Jordanian officials in a detailed manner. He affirmed that Russia supports the Palestinian-Israeli agreement, which was agreed on in Oslo recently.

During the visit, the Russian envoy will meet with Prime Minister Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali, to whom he will convey a message from the Russian foreign minister. He will also hold talks with Talal al-Hasan, minister of state for foreign affairs, on the latest developments of the peace process and a number of regional and international issues.

### Confers With State Minister

*JN0909075093 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 2000 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Text] Talal al-Hasan, minister of state for foreign affairs, has reaffirmed Jordan's support for independent Palestinian decisionmaking under the leadership of the PLO, the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. He expressed Jordan's hope that this [Palestinian-Israeli] accord will be a serious step toward achieving a just, comprehensive, and durable peace.

This statement was made during today's ministers meeting with Russian envoy Viktor Posuvalyuk, chief of Near Eastern and North African Countries Administration at the Russian Foreign Ministry.

For his part, the Russian envoy, who arrived in Amman earlier today, stressed the importance of Jordan's role in all stages of the peace process. He praised His Majesty King Husayn and the Jordanian Government's serious role and mature commitment to the peace process. He also noted that his visit to Jordan comes within the framework of following up the recent developments in the region and exploring means to push the peace process forward. He expressed his country's support for the Palestinian-Israeli accord. The two sides also discussed relations between the two friendly countries and means to reinforce and develop them in all fields.

## Buwayz on PLO-Israeli Accord, Right of Return

*NC0809170993 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Text] Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz has reiterated Lebanon's stance on the Palestinian-Israeli agreement, saying it concerns the Palestinians themselves.

He said: The agreement is primarily a Palestinian affair, although we are involved in its substance one way or another. However, we do not give lessons or outbid anyone, and we will not be more royal than the king.

In a statement this afternoon, he added: Despite our observations on the form and content of the agreement, we would have liked some of its points to be clearer and better.

Replying to a question on the problem of Palestinian settlement in Lebanon that emerged after the Palestinian-Israeli agreement, he said the problem of the Palestinian refugees' presence in Lebanon existed before but it had no prospects for a solution. He added: I can say today that, although ambiguous and not final, there is a possibility for a solution. We may at some stage see hopes for solving this problem. In the past, the door to the solution was closed and there was no hope. The primary responsibility lies with the Palestinian side to demand a clear and distinct provision in any agreement with the Israeli side guaranteeing the right of the Palestinian refugees to return.

## Implications of Gaza-Jericho Agreement Viewed

*NC0709111893 Beirut AL-SAFIR in Arabic 4 Sep 93 p 1*

[Editorial by Talal Salman]

[Excerpts] There is no room for a useful dialogue on the Israeli-Palestinian agreement, first, because the time for dialogue is a thing of the past. There might have been no agreement had dialogue between the Palestinian and the Arab been possible.

Second, the agreement is the product of another dialogue, which is opposite—an alternative—to Arab-Palestinian dialogue. The Israeli has replaced the Arab as an interlocutor, even as a partner.

Third, the Israeli-Palestinian agreement is closed to the Arab parties except those who nudged the Palestinian or made themselves his guide leading and protecting him against isolation, such as the Egyptian regime, those who colluded to tighten the blockade on the Palestinian to give him more justification to do things on his own, or those who turned a blind eye so they could not see what they did not like or want to see, thinking they could not prevent it. [passage omitted]

It is rather tragic that dialogue on something so important has become impossible, something that could redraw the map of the Arab world and even change the name of the region from the Arab homeland or the Arab world to the Middle East. The first name is purely geographical and of a romantic nature, while the second is political and more precise in its implications. [passage omitted]

Despite knowing the great power that has imposed this Israeli-international agreement and is defending it and making it impossible to be torpedoed in the foreseeable future (except by the Palestinians themselves or by an unexpected Arab tremor), there is a need to highlight some points or consequences, even as an "intellectual luxury:"

1. There is a threat that the "old" Palestine would change from being a linking factor and a uniting issue to a factor of dissent and disunity and an additional human barrier that would further reinforce the Israeli entity.

2. The Palestinian who was separated by the Arabs or who separated himself (in collusion with the Arabs) from the Arabs could turn from an Arab vanguard for the "liberation," even through armed struggle, into an Israeli vanguard for the uncontested invasion of the Arabs in their various countries.

Irrespective of the intentions, the old Palestine would change from being a catalyst for unity and liberation into a center for counterattack against everything that unites (or used to unite) the Arabs!

3. The "new Palestinian" who was born of the womb of Arab disunity could now take the "new Arabs" back to the Israeli imperial plan instead of taking them, as it was hoped, to a united Arab state, which was once their dream and is now no longer being considered or sought.

What sense is there in objecting to normalization outside Palestine if the Palestinian, who is directly concerned with the issue, is propagating, marketing, and calling for this normalization. Withholding normalization was approved in the past as a policy to be used as an effective weapon to contain the Zionist entity until the Arabs could conquer it by war or peace.

4. What happened is not a temporary political agreement. It establishes a historic alliance between Israel and the Palestinian leadership or with the Palestinians, at least until the opposite is proven. It is not an agreement to end the state of war between two political entities (states) that have a transient dispute over borders or some land. It will historically end the right of a people to their land from which they were expelled, a land that was taken from them by force, and the right of a nation to its own future.

Again, we must emphasize that while the Palestinian could be primarily responsible as the party directly concerned and the signatory, he is definitely not the sole responsible party. Every Arab is responsible in varying degrees. This agreement will take the Palestinian from his natural position to the opposite position, assisting, preparing, or facilitating Israel's occupation of the Arabs, instead of being the Arab vanguard for liberating Palestine. It is as if everyone has cooperated and united to make it the organization to liberate Palestine from the Arabs. [passage omitted]

## Israeli Bid To Make 'Separate Deals' Assailed

*JN0509175393 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1130 GMT 5 Sep 93*

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: Israeli officials have been intimating lately that there has been movement on the Syrian-Israeli track without any concomitant signs that there has been any shift in Israel's position on a complete withdrawal from the occupied Golan Heights in exchange for full peace. In fact, Israeli utterances about a withdrawal in the Golan or on the Golan testify to a lack of seriousness on the part of the Rabin government when it comes to a commitment to the peace process and its terms of reference; specifically UN Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338—the underpinning of the American initiative to bring a fair and general peace to the region.

This raises a legitimate question: This being Israel's position, what is the idea, then, of promoting the notion of movement on the Syria-Israel track? The answer is quite obvious: By announcing that it is making tough and painful decisions, Israel is thus heralding partial withdrawal as the limit beyond which it will not go. Beyond that, Israel is, in effect, saying that its notions about withdrawal are consistent with Resolutions 242 and 338 and the Madrid formula.

By talking about a withdrawal that is devoid of any substance, Israel thus drops the word occupation from its vocabulary as well as a key clause of Resolution 242 that emphasizes the inadmissibility of the acquisition of territory by force. Israeli officials fall over themselves in stating their support for 242 and 338, but this is little more than lip service. If not, why is it that they refuse to be bound by the principle of the inadmissibility of acquiring territory by force? Likewise, they refuse to obligate themselves to the cornerstone of peace—a complete withdrawal from the occupied territory. Peace cannot possibly be a subject to haggle about, nor a vehicle for extortion; no matter how small the size of the territory under occupation, peace and occupation do not go together. Since the Madrid conference and the subsequent Washington talks, nothing has been said by any Israeli official of any political persuasion to signal a real interest in a just and comprehensive peace. Instead, Israeli officials have been hard at work prevaricating, setting traps, and pursuing separate deals to undermine the collective bargaining position of the Arabs. They have been busy advancing their land-grabbing effort, and, in the meantime, leading world opinion to think that they are seeking peace, when in reality they are pursuing the kind of peace that entrenches occupation and steals rights.

Against the backdrop of such Israeli tactics, the Rabin government's contention that progress is being made on the Syrian-Israeli track is a transparent attempt to achieve what it has been planning throughout, and that is to take on each Arab side individually, and conclude separate deals contrary to the spirit of the Madrid formula and UN resolutions and the components of a fair and comprehensive peace. A true measure of the seriousness of the intentions of Israeli officials toward peace is the extent of their commitment to UN resolutions. What they are doing now is looking hard for ways to get around these resolutions.

## Al-Asad Briefed on Electricity Situation

*JN0909080993 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0415 GMT 9 Sep 93*

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad chaired a meeting yesterday afternoon to discuss and tackle the country's electricity situation. The meeting was attended by 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party; Mahmud al-Zu'bi, prime minister; Dr. Sulayman Qaddah, assistant regional secretary; Rashid Akhtarini, deputy prime minister for services affairs; Dr. Salim Yasin, deputy prime minister for economic affairs; Dr. Kamil al-Baba, minister of electricity; Khalid al-Mahayini, minister of finance; Dr. Nadir Nabulsi, minister of oil and mineral resources; Dr. 'Abd-al-Rahim Subay'i, minister of state for planning affairs; Zaki 'Awdah, director general of the Electricity Authority; and 'Ali Shab'ani; director of the Power Generation Department.

The president was briefed on the electricity situation, the ongoing efforts to overcome existing difficulties, the causes of these difficulties, and the ways of tackling and correcting them.

The president gave instructions to find effective temporary and long-term solutions and to avoid such difficulties in the future. The president also gave instructions that the planning in the field of power generation and distribution should be based on the real needs, taking into consideration the continuous industrial and agricultural development in Syria, the continuous increase in living standards, and the increase in population.

The president said: Every citizen has a right to obtain electricity, as this is a reason to continue development and progress in all fields.

## Afghanistan

### * Rival Party Leaders Form Advisory Council

*93P50286A London AL-HAYAH in Arabic 31 Aug 93 p 1*

[Report by Ahmad Muwaffaq Zaydan]

[Text] Peshawar—Reliable Afghan sources have told AL-HAYAH that the major Islamic parties in Mazar-i Sharif, northern Afghanistan, have formed an advisory council including the Hezb-e Eslami [Islamic Party], led by Prime Minister Golboddin Hekmatyar, the Jami'at-e Eslami [Islamic Society], led by Borhanoddin Rabbani, and the Harakat-e Enqelab-e Eslami [Islamic Revolutionary Movement of Afghanistan], led by Shaykh Mohammad Nabi Mohammadi. The council has demanded that the Uzbek militias led by General 'Abdol-Rashid Dostam relinquish the Central Corps positions inside the city of Mazar-i Sharif, the capital of Balkh Province, which witnessed the beginning of the uprising against the regime of former Communist President Najibollah in April of last year.

The leaders of the Jami'at-e Eslami came to agreement with the Uzbek militias that the Jami'at would control 60 percent of the elements of the corps, while the militias would be restricted to control of 40 percent.

The leaders of the Hezb-e Eslami, foremost among them Mowlawi 'Abbadi, the leader of the party's forces in Jhowzjan, Dostam's birthplace, and Jum'at Khan, the party's leader in Mazar-i Sharif, held meetings day before yesterday with the leaders of the Jami'at and the Harakat, agreeing to coordinate efforts to expel the militias from the city.

Sources close to the Jami'at-e Eslami in Mazar-i Sharif yesterday told AL-HAYAH that bloody battles were occurring between the forces of the Shiite Hezb-e Wahdat [Unity Party] loyal to Tehran and elements of the Uzbek militias, resulting in the deaths of 14 Hezb-e Wahdat members.

This contradicts the news concerning the participation of the Hezb-e Wahdat in the Jihad council that was formed recently. At a time when Hezb-e Eslami sources say that their party is participating in the council, sources close to the Jami'at are denying this. The council leveled warnings recently at the forces of Dostam to leave the city by yesterday, but its postion was not further explained. It was said that the leaders of the Jami'at-e Eslami threatened that, if Dostam used the aircraft in Mazar-i Sharif, Jami'at forces surrounding the airport would destroy them. Those coming from the city said that Dostam's force inside it and in its security belt has about 80 tanks.

### Russian Delegation Received by Government Officials

#### Rabbani Receives Kozyrev

*LD0809194193 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1715 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Text] This afternoon [8 September], Esteemed Professor Borhanoddin Rabbani, president of the Islamic State of Afghanistan, received a high ranking Russian delegation headed by Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev. Esteemed Afghan Foreign Minister Hedayat Amin Arsala was present. The presidential press office reported that talks were conducted on issues of interest to the two countries, on Afghan-Russia relations, and on the border problems of Tajikistan. Similarly, Esteemed Engineer Golboddin Hekmatyar, prime minister of Afghanistan, met with Foreign Minister Kozyrev today in the temporary headquarters of the premiership. The two sides held talks on the relations between the two countries and border problems of Tajikistan.

#### Foreign Minister Meets Kozyrev

*LD0809205693 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1715 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Text] This morning [8 September], esteemed Hedayat Amin Arsala, minister of foreign affairs of the Islamic State of Afghanistan [ISA], met with Mr. Andrey Kozyrev, minister of foreign affairs of the Russian Federation, who has come to Kabul at the head of a high-ranking delegation. In the meeting talks were held on issues of interest of the two countries and on regional problems.

On relations between the two countries, the ISA minister of foreign affairs said: The ISA is interested in further consolidating relations between the two countries, to base them on good understanding, mutual respect, noninterference in each other's internal affairs, and [words indistinct], which will be in the interest of both sides.

In response the minister of foreign affairs of the Russian Federation expressed the readiness of his country to develop bilateral relations and added: The Russian Federation wants to play its proper part in the reconstruction of Afghanistan.

The Russian Federation delegation members were [words indistinct], deputy chief of the general staff; (Pozhakov), deputy commander of border forces; (Aleksandr Kozha), deputy head of the department of Central Asia and [word indistinct] foreign relations; (Yevgeniy Aliyev), Russian consul general in Mazar-e Sharif; and senior officials of [words indistinct] of the Russian Federation.

### 'Serious' Probe in Deputy Governor's Assassination

*LD0809210893 Kabul Radio Afghanistan Network in Pashto 1715 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Text] With great grief we have received a report that esteemed Haji Shamali Khan, deputy governor and director general of national security of Nangarhar province, faced a grave attempt on his life in an ambush and attained the honor of martyrdom. A responsible source of the Ministry of Defense told a BAKHTAR military correspondent: So far we do not have precise information on the circumstances of the incident. A serious investigation is under way.

## Bangladesh

### Opposition Announces Anti-Government Campaign

*BK2808135793 Dhaka DAINIK ITTEFAQ in Bengali 21 Aug 93 p 1*

["Ittefaq Report"]

[Text] Sheikh Hasina, leader of the opposition in the parliament and president of the Awami League [AL], has announced a program of countrywide movement against the misrule and corruption of the ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party [BNP].

Addressing a mammoth public meeting in Dhaka yesterday, the leader of the opposition said that the movement aims at establishing democracy and restoring the fundamental rights of the people. It also aims at realizing their four-point demand which includes repealing the Indemnity Ordinance which prohibits holding a trial for the killers of former President Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, establishing the rule of law, holding a trial for Jamaat-i-Islami leader Gholam Azam, and resisting government corruption.

The movement program includes holding opposition rallies and demonstrations in district towns and villages from September 8 to 18, and observing a countrywide hartal [general strike] on October 10.

Dwelling on government corruption, the AL leader said that the fate of the people will remain unchanged if this government is allowed to continue in power. She said her party wants to eradicate corruption and terrorism from society.

Criticizing the Indemnity Ordinance, Sheikh Hasina questioned why the trial of the killers of her father Sheikh Mujibur Rahaman and family members has not been held.

The AL chief alleged that the student faction of the ruling BNP has let loose terrorism in educational institutions and has made the students and teachers their hostages.

Announcing the economic programs of her party, Sheikh Hasina said that the AL wants to eradicate poverty, modernize the agriculture sector, and encourage private sector participation in the industrial sector along with developing the public sector. Referring to the plan of the government to retrench workers from public sector industrial units, the AL chief said that this will not help solve the problem. She said the workers cannot be dismissed unless alternate arrangements are made for them.

The deputy leader of the opposition in parliament, Abdus Samad Azad, addressing the meeting said that the rule of law cannot be established in the country until the killers of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman are put on trial. He alleged that the country's economy is on the verge of collapse, and mills and factories are being closed. Azad called on the people to launch a vigorous movement against the government.

AL member of parliament Salahuddin Yusuf speaking on the occasion criticized the government for its subservient foreign policy. He said that the ruling party does not want to make the judiciary independent. In this connection, Yusuf said that the AL moved a bill in parliament about two years ago to separate the judiciary from the executive but regretted that until today the bill has not been adopted due to the stalling tactics of the ruling party.

AL leader Abdur Razzak alleged that the BNP has failed to deliver any good to the nation during the past two and a half years. He criticized the ruling party for opposing the move taken by the opposition in parliament to impose a ban on alcohol and gambling.

Addressing the meeting, AL MP Tofayel Ahmed accused the agriculture minister of indulging in widespread corruption and nepotism.

Another AL leader, Motia Chowdhury, in her speech blamed the government for raising the price of fertilizers four times during the last two and a half years. She alleged that the government has not kept its promise to waive agricultural loans up to the limit of Taka 10,000 and added that the farmers have lost interest in farming.

### Dissident Opposition Leader Launches New Party

*BK2908161693 Hong Kong AFP in English 1532 GMT 29 Aug 93*

[Text] Dhaka, Aug 29 (AFP)—Bangladesh's top dissident opposition Awami League (AL) leader, Kamal Hossain, announced here Sunday [29 August] he had formed a new political party which he said will work as a unifying force to establish rule of law.

The formation of Gono Forum (GF or Peoples' Forum) was announced by Hossain at a crowded press conference following a three-day national convention of his now defunct Democratic Forum.

Hossain, a lawyer and former foreign minister, said the convention had approved an interim constitution and an 111-member central organising committee for the Gono Forum.

The new party will have a 12-member presidium headed by himself, he said, adding that the committee will convention a national conference of the party within 15 months to elect new leadership.

Hossain, who until today held a largely decorative advisory post in the AL headed by Sheikh Hasina Wajed, was a close associate of the nation's founding father—and Wajed's father—Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, killed in a violent coup in 1975.

He played a leading role in the 1981 return of Wajed from self- exile in India to head her father's party.

But Hossain has distanced himself from Wajed and her party for unexplained reasons after his defeat in 1991 parliamentary elections.

The differences came to the forefront when he formed the Democratic Forum early this year saying it would serve as a pressure group on both the ruling Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) and main opposition AL to behave as responsible parties and keep their electoral commitments.

Hossain Sunday told reporters that he had formally resigned from the AL to clear the way for his new party, which he said will also work for unity on major contentious national issues.

The new party's political and economic policies and programmes, announced so far, have apparent similarities with those of Wajed's AL, political analysts here said.

They added that Hossain's move, though it may not immediately make a major dent in traditional Bangladeshi politics, could be seen as a setback for Wajed in the short term.

Hossain at the start of the convention Friday said "Our initiative to hold this conference flows from our shared concern at the fact that 22 years after independence, our goals and aspirations and our expectations from independence remain unrealised."

## India

### Trade Union Strike Called 'Total Flop'

*BK0909132893 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1230 GMT 9 Sep 93*

[Text] Reports from various parts of the country say that there has been little or no response to the bundh [strike] call in most states except West Bengal, Tripura, and Kerala. The bundh was called by some trade unions affiliated to the left parties and the National Front in protest against the government's economic policies.

Our Bombay correspondent reports that it was another busy day in Bombay today. Life was normal with people moving out as usual.

In West Bengal, normal life remains affected as shops and business establishments are closed.

Train services on the East and in Southeastern Railways have been disrupted following picketing.

Reports from the northeast say that normal life was not affected barring Tripura. The bundh in Tripura is total.

It did not affect life in Madras city. Our correspondent reports that everything went as usual.

In Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, and Uttar Pradesh the bundh call did not have any noticeable impact.

In Kerala, shops and commercial establishments remained closed in major centers. Bus and train services were disrupted.

In Gujarat, banks, insurances companies, textile mills, and educational institutions were open. However, our Vijayavada correspondent reports that some trains have been detained by bundh supporters at different places in the Vijayavada Division.

In Jammu and Kashmir, the bundh evoked almost no response. Offices and schools remained open in Jammu, Srinagar, and other towns in the state.

In the capital Delhi, life remained almost normal. Attendance in central government offices was reported normal.

The Congress-I has described the bundh as a total flop. The spokesman of the party said except in West Bengal and Tripura, it has not evoked any response.

Representatives of various trade unions claimed that today's Bharat bundh [All India Strike] was successful. They were addressing newspersons in the capital this evening. They said it was a strike organized by the working class and has no political overtones. Giving details of observance of the bundh in different states and sectors, they urged the government to reverse what they called its anti-people and pro-imperialist policies.

### AFP: 'Millions' Walked Off Job

*BK0909133293 Hong Kong AFP in English 1130 GMT 9 Sep 93*

[By Anil Penna]

[Text] New Delhi, Sept 9 (AFP)—Millions of Indian workers walked off the job on Thursday in a nationwide strike against economic reform billed as the biggest ever show of strength by trade unions.

Sporadic clashes between police and protestors were reported in several states during the one-day strike, which paralysed industrial and commercial activity in parts of the country.

It was the third country-wide union action against the reforms launched in 1991 by the Congress (I) party government of Prime Minister P.V. Narasimha Rao opening India's tightly-closed market to foreign investors.

In a speech here, Finance Minister Manmohan Singh defended the reforms and described as "baseless" union charges they were anti-labour. He said India needed to open up to integrate with the world economy.

"If the process of economic reforms is not allowed to succeed, India will enter the 21st century as the poorest country in Asia," said Singh, the architect of the reforms.

The communist Centre of Indian Trade Unions (CITU), one of the strike sponsors, claimed that nearly 20 million workers joined the work-stoppage accompanied by street protests and clashes with police.

"We are thankful to the workers for their massive response," said Madhukar Pandhe, the CITU general secretary.

"It shows the serious discontent prevailing in the country against the government's economic policies," Pandhe said. "The government should take note of the discontent.

"If they don't change their anti-people policies, we will be forced to resort to bigger actions," the union leader said.

Some 10,000 union workers were detained across the country by police who baton-charged and scattered demonstrators setting up rail and road blockades, Pandhe said.

He said 100 people suffered minor injuries in the capital, where strikers stoned vehicles and clashed with police in an industrial area. Five people were injured in the northeastern state of Assam but no major violence was reported.

Work at public and private sector factories, banks and insurance companies, sugar and textile mills, coal mines, chemical and engineering companies, posts and telegraph, income tax offices and defence installations was disrupted.

Indian Airlines groundstaff joined the strike, prompting the domestic carrier to operate a restricted service. Many schools and colleges ordered a day's holiday, but water, electricity and food supplies were unaffected.

Pandhe said the strike was "total" in the states of Kerala, Bengal, Bihar, Tripura, Kerala, Assam and Manipur where normal life virtually ground to a halt, and partial in other parts of the country.

Shops downed their shutters and transport stayed off the roads in the Bengal capital of Calcutta, the cradle of Indian communism.

In the western state of Maharashtra, government offices were closed and the 70,000 state employees took the day off, union officials said in the capital Bombay.

Most of the 130,000 employees of the Bombay Municipal Corp., the city administration, also stayed away from work. Most of Bombay's taxis and scooter-taxis stayed off the roads.

Trading on the Bombay Stock Exchange was shortened. Services were affected at half-a-dozen hospitals.

Transport officials said buses had been stoned at about seven places in Bombay, India's financial capital. Several hundred union activists were arrested by police when they tried to stop traffic.

Only two major unions affiliated to the ruling Congress (I) and the main opposition party, the right-wing Bharatiya Janata Party, have refused to join the strike.

Many public sector managements had warned employees to turn up for work or face penal action, and security forces had reinforced vital installations and potential troublespots.

Leftist parties and trade unions have been at the forefront of opposition to the economic reforms, which have included overtures to foreign investors, tariff cuts and a cautious privatisation drive.

They charge that the reforms have been dictated by global lending agencies and would hurt domestic industry and lead to large-scale job layoffs.

## Congress-I Hails Border Accord With PRC

*BK0809162693 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Text] The Congress-I has hailed the agreement between India and China on the Line of Actual Control [LAC]. Describing the agreement as historic, the party spokesman, Mr. V.N. Gadgil, said the agreement is based on pragmatic consideration of national interests of both the countries.

The BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] says the Sino-Indian agreement on the Line of Actual Control only formalizes the arrangement which has been there since 1979. The party said while any move to ensure peace and tranquility on the LAC is welcome, nothing should compromise India's position with regard to its border or territory.

The CPI [Communist Party of India] and the CPI-M [Communist Party of India-Marxist] have described the Sino-Indian agreement on the Line of Actual Control as a significant step forward in building friendly and good neighborly relations between the two countries.

### Kashmir Governor Reveals Plan to Contain Militancy

*BK0709130393 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1230 GMT 7 Sep 93*

[Text] The governor of Jammu and Kashmir, General K.V. Krishna Rao, says a contingency plan has been drawn up for creating a security environment to revive the democratic process in the state. Addressing a press conference in Jammu today, he said additional forces are being deployed in certain areas. Gen. Rao hoped that the militancy would be contained in another three to four months.

### Iraq's al-Duri Conveys Support for Kashmir Issue

*BK0609161293 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 1530 GMT 6 Sep 93*

[Text] Iraq has reiterated her support to India on the Kashmir issue. The Iraqi support on the Kashmir issue was conveyed by the permanent under secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr. 'Abd-al-Jabbar al-Duri, when he called on the external affairs minister, Mr. Dinesh Singh, in New Delhi today.

The three-member Iraqi delegation is currently in India to hold talks on bilateral matters, the Gulf situation, and other international issues.

#### Foreign Minister Receives al-Duri

*JN0709173693 Baghdad Republic of Iraq Radio Network in Arabic 1600 GMT 7 Sep 93*

[Text] Indian Foreign Minister Dinesh Singh received 'Abd-al-Jabbar al-Duri, under secretary of the [Iraqi] Foreign Ministry, in New Delhi yesterday. An INA correspondent in New Delhi said talks dealt with bilateral relations and ways to strengthen them.

Al-Duri held a round of official talks yesterday. The Indian team at these talks was led by Sarini Vazin [name as heard], under secretary of the Indian Foreign Ministry. The talks dealt with bilateral relations and ways to strengthen them.

'Abd-al-Jabbar al-Duri met in New Delhi yesterday with the under secretary of the Indian Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas and representatives of [name indistinct] group of construction companies. The INA correspondent said talks dealt with ways to cooperate with Indian companies and the possibility of their contributing to the reconstruction campaign in Iraq.

#### Official Statement on al-Duri Visit

*BK0809163093 Delhi ISI Diplomatic Information Service in English 1507 GMT 8 Sep 93*

["Official Spokesman's Statement on Visit of Iraqi Permanent Under Secretary to India From September 4-9, 1993"]

[Text] A three-member Iraqi delegation led by H.E. 'Abd-al-Jabbar 'Umar al-Duri, permanent under secretary in the Iraqi Ministry of Foreign Affairs, paid an official visit to India on September 4-9, 1993. This visit marks the first high-level official contact between the two countries since the Gulf crisis of 1990-91, the effects of which persist to this day. The Iraqi under secretary called on the minister of external affairs, Dinesh Singh, and the minister of state for external affairs, Salman Khurshid, and his delegation held talks with K. Srinivasan, Secretary (W) [West Asia Division] and their Indian counterparts in the Ministry of External Affairs and other ministries and organisations concerned with the Indo-Iraqi relations. The deliberations were conducted in a cooperative, frank, and friendly spirit with due regard to the close relations which have traditionally prevailed between India and Iraq.

The external affairs minister of India extended an invitation to his Iraqi counterpart to visit India, the dates to be determined through diplomatic channels. The Indian side took the opportunity to raise bilateral matters of importance to India such as the pending dues of the Indian project exporters, noncertification and cancellation of bills and completion certificates by the central bank of Iraq, confiscation of Indian property and equipment in Iraq after the Gulf war and release of an Indian national Samuel Kutty imprisoned for straying inadvertently into Iraq from Kuwait. The Iraqi delegation took note of these aspects raised by the Indian side. They invited an OCCI [expansion unknown] delegation of concerned project exporters to visit Iraq and agreed to negotiate a new deferred payments arrangement to take effect when UN sanctions are lifted. India reiterated its full support to maintenance of peace, stability and security in the Gulf region, with respect for the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Gulf states, all of whom have historic traditional and friendly bonds with India. India hoped that the various points of impasse concerning the full implementation of the United Nations Security Council resolutions would soon be satisfactorily resolved, so that the economic sanctions imposed on Iraq can be lifted to alleviate the grave humanitarian problems facing the Iraqi people.

### Commentary Ponders Pakistani 'War Lobby'

*BK0709063193 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 1 Sep 93 p 8*

[Editorial: "Pakistan's Warmongers"]

[Text] A fourth war with India to capture Kashmir is openly envisioned in Pakistan from time to time. It is not easy to say precisely what prompts such a war cry at a given moment. Political leaders sometimes do find it expedient to indulge in warlike rhetoric. But when a leading figure in the military establishment until recently tries to make out a case for a renewed military adventure against India, it serves as a reminder of the existence of a powerful war lobby in Pakistan. Indeed, a substantial section of the Pakistan elite has fed itself on a dream of conquering Kashmir through war. The other day Lt.-Gen. (Retd) Hamid Gul, who became famous as the chief of the Inter-Service Intelligence [ISI] during the Afghan conflict, dangled before a gathering of students in Faisalabad the enchanting spectacle of a rout of the Indian Army. If the six lakh Indian soldiers in Kashmir are surrounded from all sides, he said in a voice ringing with confidence, they would surrender "in a few hours."

Let no one try to identify Hamid Gul to any lunatic fringe of the military establishment. For the doctrine that the Indian Army is incapable of fighting a full-dress war with Pakistan with a big part of it stuck in Kashmir, has been sedulously peddled even by leading foreign policy commentators in the Pakistani media. The jehad-lovers of Pakistan must have been especially thrilled by Hamid Gul's assertion: "Kashmir is our jugular vein. We have fought three wars earlier for it without success. There is no harm if we fight a fourth—and successful—war for it. At the most, India can fight for two years in Kashmir."

Although Hamid Gul has politically been in the doldrums in the last two years, he embodies a deep-rooted rabidity in Pakistan. And it is not just Kashmir which has fuelled it. The ISI's design on Afghanistan, conceived originally by the late Gen. Zia, has also generated much aggressive sentiment. Few, for instance, have got such a first-hand knowledge of the ISI's ends and means than the celebrated Afghan Mojahedin leader, Ahmad Shah Mas'ud, currently the Defence Minister. While talking to Pakistani journalists the other day he roundly accused the ISI of trying to establish a proxy government in Afghanistan through Golboddin Hekmatyar. Charging Islamabad with following a foreign policy dictated by an intelligence agency, Mas'ud declared: "We do not want bloodshed in Afghanistan and we will not allow any intelligence agency to do that ......but Hekmatyar wants to make our country hostage to the interests of Pakistani intelligence agencies." Such a scathing attack on the ISI by a close ally until two years ago makes one wonder whether even the Pakistan army leadership can effectively control it. It seems that the Nawaz Sharif government was under American pressure to clip the ISI's wings but he made only a few cosmetic changes.

## Iran

### Armenian Leader: 'Serious' Bid To End Conflict

*LD0809165593 Tehran IRNA in English 1624 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 8, IRNA—Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosyan today assured President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani that "serious" moves and measures would be taken soon to settle the Karabakh issue. Talking to his Iranian counterpart by telephone, the Armenian president described the critical situation in Karabakh and Azerbaijan as "temporary and transient." He said Armenian officials understand the sentiments of the Iranian Government, Majlis and people about recent incidents and are aware the Iranian nation is sensitive to the fate of the Muslim people of Azerbaijan and that they are pursuing developments there with concern.

Petrosyan expressed confidence that no fresh attacks will be launched from Karabakh aginst Azerbaijan and that areas occupied by Armenian forces will be evacuated gradually.

President Rafsanjani said in reply that the spread of war between Azerbaijan and Armenia means difficult and agonizing times for the Muslim people of Iran. "The peoples of Iran and of most other countries of the world see no justification for fanning of a war that will certainly have no benefit for either party," Rafsanjani told Petrosyan. Rafsanjani reminded that since the very beginning of conflict, the Islamic Republic has been trying to mediate between the two countries to settle their disputes.

He expressed hope that negotiations between Azerbaijani and Armenian officials to solve their disputes peacefully would make progress in the future and that both neighboring countries would strive for peace and tranquility and peaceful coexistence.

### Azerbaijan Camp To Hold Up To 100,000 Refugees

*LD0809142593 Tehran IRNA in English 1332 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Text] Ardebil, East Azerbaijan Prov., Sept. 8, IRNA—Iran is to set up a camp in Imishli region of the Republic of Azerbaijan, next to Iran's Parsabad, within the next few days with a capacity of hosting 100,000 refugees.

Deputy head of the Red Crescent Society (RCS) for relief affairs Bijan Daftari, who is heading a delegation to the region to probe into possibilities for setting up the camp, said a large number of Azeris were wandering in the mountains in search of safe havens.

Daftari said that RCS will sponsor accomodation and feeding of the refugees and would also distribute food rations among them for two months, or six if necessary, in accordance with international standards.

Meanwhile, Yusef Asghari, a provincial RCS official said that the society would ship its first food consignment including bread, dates, biscuits and canned food, off to Azerbaijan on Friday for distribution among 2,000 families.

### Iran Sends 40 Tons of Food to Azeris

*LD0709165593 Tehran IRNA in English 1640 GMT 7 Sep 93*

[Text] Tabriz (East Azerbaijan Prov.) Sept. 7, IRNA—Iran dispatched a 40-ton foodstuff consignment to displaced Azeri people who fled the Armenian offensives for the safety of the Azerbaijan-Iran border, according to a local official here today.

Iran's East Azerbaijan Province is to build a camp in Azerbaijan Republic for the displaced persons, and that a team left here for Imlashi 12 kilometers beyond the border River Aras in Azerbaijan to determine a site for the camp.

Iran has agreed to set up camps on Azeri soil to accommodate up to 100,000 people fleeing the Armenian offensives. The camps will be equipped with all necessities including health and educational facilities.

### Azeri Helicopter Hit; Makes Emergency Landing

*NC0809103893 Paris AFP in English 1005 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Excerpt] Tehran, Sept 8 (AFP)—An Azeri helicopter made an emergency landing inside Iran after it was hit by Armenian forces in southern Azerbaijan, officials said Wednesday.

The helicopter landed Tuesday at a police station in Khoda Afarin, a town by the Araks river along the border with Azerbaijan, after coming under attack in the region of Zangelanskiy, they said. [passage omitted]

### Interior Ministry Official Explains Iraqi Refugee Policy

*LD0609123193 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 6 Sep 93*

[Text] The director general of the Interior Ministry's Department for the Affairs of Aliens and Refugees, in an exclusive interview with our reporter today, described the policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran in accepting Iraqi Muslim refugees. He said: The current policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran is to accept and provide shelter for these refugees, and steps have been taken to date to accept 5,000 of them.

Ahmad Hoseyni, director general of the Interior Ministry's Department for the Affairs of Aliens and Refugees, said: Because of the concentrated number of refugees in the Khuzestan Province, newly arrived refugees are being transferred to the camps in Jahrom in Fars Province and to Azna in Lorestan Province.

He added: The office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees has announced that it will cooperate to provide the necessary facilities for these refugees.

Hoseyni emphasized the temporary nature of the shelter given to Iraqi refugees in Iran. He said: As long as insecure conditions prevail in the marshlands of southern Iraq, these refugees will be looked after in the Islamic Republic of Iran.

In conclusion, he called on international forums to be more sensitive toward the plight of this group of refugees who have been forced to leave their homes and dwellings and to immigrate to the Islamic Republic of Iran's territory: to carry out their duties and humanitarian responsibilities and to take steps toward securing their needs—in particular, the equipment needed to provide the refugees with shelter, to dispatch medical teams, and to set up field hospitals.

### Iraqi Refugees in Khuzestan Number 50,000

*LD0409161093 Tehran IRNA in English 1445 GMT 4 Sep 93*

[Text] Ramsar (Gilan), Sept. 4, IRNA—With the fresh arrival of 5,000 Iraqi refugees into Iran's Hur-al-Huweizeh marshes in the southwest last month, the number of Iraqi Arab refugees in Khuzestan has reached 50,000.

The Red Crescent Society's (RCS) director general for relief assistance, Foruzesh Faizi, talking to IRNA in this Caspian city today, said the society is providing relief to the Iraqis.

The new wave of Iraqi refugees in Iran follows the stepping up of efforts by Baghdad to drain the vast marshlands of the south which shelter hundreds of thousands of Shi'ite Arabs.

Faizi said RCS has also provided Azeris and Nakhichevanis fleeing the Armenian offensive, with 1,000 tents and medical requirements at a camp set up on Azerbaijani territory.

He disclosed that his organization is planning to set up a naval relief headquarter at the Caspian to cope with the after effects of storms, floods, and other sea disasters.

Thirty-five boats are to be kept ready at 18 bases located between Gorgan in the east and Astara on the west, to rush relief in case of any natural disasters in the area.

### Nateq-Nuri Claims Youth Ready To Serve in Bosnia

*LD0609110693 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 6 Sep 93*

[Excerpt] The second day of the Islamic Unity Conference in Tehran continued its work today with an address by Majlis Speaker Nateq-Nuri. The Majlis speaker congratulated the world's Muslims on the occasion of the joyous birth anniversary of Islam's prophet—peace and benedictions be upon him and his scion. He noted: Knowing the enemy and the devices deployed by the enemies of Islam is an important factor in helping to prevent disunity and discord among Muslims. He pointed out that arrogant powers consider solidarity among Muslims as an obstacle to achieving their sinister goals. He added: Muslims should recognize their enemies and should confront the causes [elal] clearly and rapidly.

Mr. Nateq-Nuri referred to disputes over territory among Muslims in some parts of the world, and said: By placing Muslims opposite each other and by raising ethnic issues, arrogance intends to penetrate their ranks. In this connection we are witness to the presentation of forged documents concerning historical and religious fields. He said that Muslims have substantial forces, both in terms of quality and quantity, and added: If Muslims are united, America will never be able to pursue its expansionist drives and claim that it is powerful.

The Majlis speaker referred to the situation facing Muslims in Occupied Palestine, in Tajikistan, and Bosnia-Hercegovina. He said: In the event we are given permission to enter, our young people are ready—for the sake of defending Islam and the unity of Muslims—to go to Bosnia-Hercegovina to defend Islam's sovereignty. [passage omitted]

### Ahmad Khomeyni Condemns PLO-Israeli Pact

*LD0609104793 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 6 Sep 93*

[Excerpts] In a meeting this morning with the minister, deputy ministers, and staff of the Cooperatives Ministry and with the directors of the country's outstanding cooperatives, Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Haj Seyyed Ahmad Khomeyni conveyed his greetings on the auspicious birth anniversaries of his holiness the prophet of God—peace be upon him and his scion—and of his noble offspring, His Holiness Imam Ja'far Sadiq, peace be upon him. Khomeyni said: The Islamic revolution derived its inspiration from the sacred tradition of His Holiness the Prophet—peace be upon him and his scion—calling on people to pursue monotheism [towhid] and pure Islam. [passage omitted]

At the end of his remarks, Khomeyni condemned both the continuing trend of compromise between the Arabs and Israel and the PLO's plan for self-rule in Gaza and Jericho and said: Experience has shown that affiliating oneself with the West leads to the servility, shame, and humiliation of Islamic combatants and revolutionaries.

According to the report, before Khomeyni's remarks Cooperatives Minister Gholam Shafe'i spoke about the ministry's aims and future plans as stipulated in the second plan for socioeconomic development. Shafe'i said: It is foreseen that, in the course of the second plan, 30 percent of the people's consumer and manufactured goods requirements will be provided via cooperatives, and 15 percent of the country's total non-oil exports will be from the cooperatives sector.

### Cuban Envoy Reports on Bilateral Relations

*LD0709155693 Tehran IRIB Television Second Program Network in English 1315 GMT 7 Sep 93*

[Text] Cuba's ambassador to Iran met with deputy chairman of Iran's Foreign Policy Commission, Dr Larijani, today.

At the meeting, the Cuban ambassador presented a report on the latest situation in his country as well as good political ties between the two states. He called for the implementation of the contents of the memos of economic, cultural, and political cooperation between the two countries.

Mr. Larijani, at the meeting, stressed expansion of bilateral relations. Pointing to the U.S. economic sanctions imposed on Cuba, Mr. Larijani said: The U.S. has embarked on an act of bully, not just threatening Cuba but most third-world states.

### Understanding Reached With Russia on Transportation Issues

*LD0809194293 Tehran IRNA in English 1655 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Text] Tehran, Sept. 8, IRNA—Iran and Russia today signed a letter of understanding on road, sea and air transportation. The agreement was signed by the Iranian Deputy Roads and Transportation Minister Mohammad Sai'dnezhad and his Russian counterpart Akadi Surev.

On the basis of the document the two countries are to engage in feasibility studies for creating a joint forwarder [as received] at the second experts meeting of the two countries this autumn.

The Roads and Transportation Ministry of Iran said Wednesday that the airline of the Islamic Republic of Iran (HOMA) is likely to establish weekly flights to and from Moscow.

The letter of understanding also provides for the formation of a permanent joint commission for coordinating transportation affairs between the two countries under the supervision of their deputy transport ministers.

The Russian official arrived in Tehran last Thursday within the context of contemplated transportation cooperation between Iran and Russia.

### Hashemi-Rafsanjani Lauds Role of Banking in Society

*LD0709125193 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0930 GMT 7 Sep 93*

[Excerpts] The president today gave a positive assessment of the role of the country's banking system in economic construction and development. He stressed: By utilizing the trust society has gained for the banking system, the banks should play a more active role in the implementation of the government's infrastructure projects during the second plan. Mr. Hashemi-Rafsanjani was speaking today at a gathering of managers of the country's banks. [passage omitted] He said: Despite foreign pressure and extensive propaganda claiming that the economy of the Islamic Republic of Iran is insecure, the government was able—with the help of the banks and people's investments—to implement and follow-up on major tasks and large-scale industrial projects. These include the construction of the subway system, the Khuzestan sugar cane project, the construction of dozens of assorted factories, and many other infrastructure projects.

The president said the fatwa of His Holiness the imam concerning the Islamic banking system was all-embracing, and that that view was a pathfinder. He said: Our revolutionary people fully understand the policies, and they have faith that the government works in the interests of the country. For this reason, by having closer ties with the banks, they have a more active participation in the implementation of the programs. [passage omitted]

According to a Central News Unit correspondent, at the beginning of the meeting Central Bank Governor 'Adeli submitted a report on the performance of the country's banks. He said: The facilities granted by the banks rose from 7 trillion rials at the end of this year [year beginning 20 March 1993] to 27 trillion rials. The people's savings reached 33 billion in the first four months of this year.

He added: The amount of foreign exchange cleared by banks in the four years of the first plan was $86.5 million dollars. [passage omitted]

### SALAM Editor Arrested for Article on Montazeri

*NC0809203493 (Clandestine) Voice of Iranian Kordestan in Persian 1730 GMT 7 Sep 93*

[From the press review]

[Text] A few weeks ago, officials of the clerical regime arrested the editor in chief of the SALAM newspaper and sent him to prison. He was arrested on the orders of the Islamic Revolution prosecutor on 26 August while walking on a street in Tehran with his family.

The SALAM editor in chief was arrested because SALAM carried a report on the opposition of regime officials to the hospitalization of Ayatollah Montazeri in a Tehran hospital. Recently, Ayatollah Montazeri has been suffering from a kidney stone and was transferred from Qom to Tehran so that he could be treated there.

Khamene'i and his cohorts, who have had some bad experiences with Montazeri and consider him a major threat to (?their policies), did not grant him permission to stay in Tehran. SALAM published this report in one of its editions and reported that Information and Intelligence Minister Fallahiyan, who was formerly Montazeri's student at the seminary, visited him. Of course this report was refuted by the Islamic Republic's officials.

Thus, this report in SALAM became the reason for the arrest of the editor in chief, who is still in prison. 'Abbas 'Abdi, the SALAM editor in chief, was one of the leaders of the student followers of the imam's line who occupied the U.S. Embassy in Tehran in the early days of the revolution. He was considered one of the personalities affiliated with the hardline faction. In addition to the correspondents' mention of Montazeri, the sensitivity of Khamene'i and other echelons of the regime regarding Montazeri indicates the dichotomy and deep rift in the clerical hierarchy in Iran. Montazeri, who was the second highest theological personality after Khomeyni was stripped of his status by Khomeyni, because of his criticism of the clerical government. He was warned that he was not permitted to interfere in any matter except to continue his teaching at the Qom seminary.

Following Khomeyni's death, Khamene'i, Hashemi-Rafsanjani, and some other clerics (?colluded) so that Khamene'i became Khomeyni's successor, and overnight he was made an ayatollah. This was quite unacceptable to most clerics. To preempt any future problems, Khamene'i sought to maintain control of the Qom seminary, which does not accept him as a source of emulation. Unlike Khamene'i, Montazeri wields considerable influence in the seminary and most of the clerics accept him as the source of emulation.

However, now that Montazeri is a (?disciple) of Mohammad Reza Musavi Golpayegani and if the latter's dies, Montazeri will not have a peer in the theological chain of command, Khamene'i is striving to (?step up his control) along with his cohorts.

The interesting point is that Khamene'i, who has supported the hardliners on many occasions, now appears to be at loggerheads with them. Observers believe that the issue of the arrest of the editor in chief of SALAM—which is known as the hardliners' newspaper—proves that Khamene'i is closer to the ruling party and intends to eventually ban SALAM with its cooperation, after the hardliners are eliminated from the cabinet, and later from the Majles.

## Pakistan

### Recent Talks Portend 'New Relationship' With U.S.

*BK0909114693 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1100 GMT 9 Sep 93*

[Text] Pakistan has expressed the confidence that the recent Pakistan-U.S. talks in Washington would pave the way for constructing a new relationship between the two countries in the post-Cold War era. A Foreign Office spokesman told newsmen in Islamabad today that the new relationship would be based on shared support of the two countries, on the principles of democracy, human rights, and [nuclear] nonproliferation. He said that both sides have benefited from the extensive exchange of views and hoped that the process of dialogue would continue.

About the Indo-China border agreement, the spokesman said Pakistan had always supported measures for defusing tension, especially in the Asian region.

Referring to the Geneva peace negotiations on Bosnia, he said that Pakistan had fully endorsed the position taken by President Alija Izetbegovic at the United Nations.

He said Pakistan has strongly condemned the Indian campaign of brutal repression of Kashmiri people and warned that unless it is (?halted), prospects of defusing tension in South Asia and achieving a political solution of the dispute would remain weak.

## Editorial Says U.S. Ties Seen 'Going Downhill'

*BK0709095793 Islamabad THE NATION in English 5 Sep 93 p 6*

[Editorial: "Pak-U.S. Relations"]

[Text] To say that Pakistan-U.S. relations are anywhere near what they were ten years back, would be an over-optimistic view. These have steadily been going downhill. It was soon after the end of U.S. involvement in Afghanistan that the U.S. President refused to certify to the Congress that Pakistan was not engaged in building a nuclear bomb. It may have been chance that Pakistan's nuclear programme reached a certain level of research at a time when the Russian armies left Afghanistan, but for an average Pakistani it was difficult to miss the simultaneity of the U.S. disinterest in Afghan war with the suspension of aid to Pakistan. Since then, holding on to the option to keep Pakistan on the "watch list" and more recently imposing sanctions against it—a measure normally reserved for hostile governments—are clearly a far cry from days when Pakistan could do no wrong, not even when a military ruler banished democracy here. Perhaps it is the irony of this situation that has made our Foreign Office open a dialogue with the U.S. State Department or maybe the State Department itself realised that its policy in South Asia was becoming more and more imbalanced and needed a review. Our Foreign Secretary's visit materialised after the Indian Foreign Secretary had made his pitch to the U.S. on why India alone had the right to nuclear development, missile manufacture and its reign of terror in a territory that the U.S. considered disputed. The Indian Foreign Secretary came away happy and the Indian Prime Minister soon after delivered himself of the counsel that if Pakistan agreed to forget Kashmir, amity between the two countries was possible. If this sounds like India being given, or assuming on its own, the overlordship of South Asia, it is not without cause.

Pakistan's position is, and has consistently been over the years, that it subscribes to all the major U.S. concerns, such as nuclear non-proliferation, arms and missile control, human rights violations, etc., and is willing to accept any agreement that covers both India and Pakistan bilaterally or regionally, but will not accept unilateral controls, especially those which jeopardise its security. But it has not apparently found favour with the U.S. In a moment of weakness the late General Zia agreed to the Pressler Amendment, thus compromising Pakistan's long-term interests for short-term gains. The watch list and the sanctions followed much later. The most that our Foreign Secretary could have done in these circumstances is to set the record straight. He could not have achieved more in the present state of Pak-U.S. relations.

## Sajjad: No Wavering on Kashmir, Nuclear Issues

*BK0609100393 Islamabad THE PAKISTAN OBSERVER in English 6 Sep 93 p 1*

[Report by Mujtaba Akhter]

[Text]Islamabad—Turning a deaf ear to the question of mounting American influence in Pakistan, acting President Wasim Sajjad persuaded newsmen to put such questions to the caretaker Prime Minister instead.

He, however, said that Islamabad will not give up Kashmir and nuclear issue.

He was informally chatting with newsmen at his Senate Office which he visited Sunday evening to meet Senators.

The President described US-Pakistan talks in Washington as routine exercise. Secretary of Foreign Affairs Shaharyar will brief about the outcome of his talks, he replied.

Let me tell you frankly, 'no way are we going to deviate from our basic stance on nuclear and Kashmir issues,' he said firmly.

Asked how he viewed caretaker government's performance, the President after a long pause said you better ask Prime Minister Qureshi of his plan of actions.

To another question he said the best person who could rationalise government's action against the loan defaulters is none other than the Finance Minister.

Sajjad, however, said that those who devoured state money in the past will have to repay it. The President didn't reply when a reporter asked him to be more precise about what he meant by caretaker Prime Minister's action plan. Why don't you ask the Prime Minister, the President put a counter question with a smile.

Asked to justify caretakers' one sided action against the loan defaulters, the President said he didn't think so. Asked if he would back similar action against the business tycoons majority of whom had reined the economy by getting their loans written off, the President said in his view all those who devoured state money will have to return it.

President Wasim Sajjad vowed to give fair trial to law breakers saying no one was above the law. When a reporter repeatedly wanted to determine the precise nature of government action against Mir Murtaza upon his arrival here, the President simply said, Murtaza will be brought to justice.

Sajjad looked composed and determined and didn't unfold whether or not he would be a candidate for the election to the President of Pakistan office.

The President vowed to hold the election with time schedule saying come what may he will have to ensure fair and free election in time.

"The escalating violence and massacre was unfortunate but let me tell you that such painful exercise will not affect the election schedule," the President said. "Possibility of foreign involvement in the killings and other such acts cannot be ruled out. However, he was not very sure about any foreign involvement.

The President didn't back the agitational movement initiated by certain politicians against the Prime Minister's economic policy. It is not fair to unnerve the government through street pressure. It would have been much more appropriate if the leaders strive for holding a fair and free election instead.

## Qureshi Speaks on Economy, Terrorism, India

*BK0509152093 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1400 GMT 5 Sep 93*

[Text] The prime minister, Mr. Moin Qureshi, has said as a result of his economic measures, the country is out of the financial crisis that faced at the time of takeover by the caretaker government. Talking to foreign correspondents in Islamabad today, he said the balance of payments of position has improved, the inflation rate has declined, and the country is likely to obtain financial assistance worth $100 million by the end of this month. He also spoke about his government's measures to check the drug menace.

[Begin Qureshi recording] We are moving in a number of areas in the narcotics field, also in the area of ... [changes thought] trying to cut down the production of the raw materials that go into these drugs as well as the (?introduction) of traffic in these areas. So, we have a major campaign in that area and I believe that it is extremely important in terms of our own objectives. Because, as you know, there are perhaps now three million addicts in Pakistan, and it is very much our problem. We are not looking upon this problem only in terms of the impact that it has in terms of the external trade in drugs ... [end recording]

The prime minister said his government has taken a clear position that it will not allow terrorism on its land.

[Begin Qureshi recording] On the issue of terrorism, the government of Pakistan has taken a very, very clear position. And that is: We will never indulge in any terrorist activity ourselves and we will never allow our own land or our territory to be used for that particular purpose. We have deported—extradited out of the country—a very large number of people on whom we had some information that they might be engaged in illegal activities. And we have been going through, screening all the people who are here in Pakistan for this particular purpose so that we might retain only those people who are genuinely engaged in social welfare activities connected with the refugees and so forth, and everyone else that is connected with other political organizations really does need to be in Pakistan for that particular purpose. [end recording]

About Indo-Pakistan relationship, the prime minister said the situation in Kashmir remains the main barrier in its improvement.

[Begin Qureshi recording] It has been the desire of every government in Pakistan, and it is obviously my desire, that we should improve our relations with India, that we should have peaceful and friendly relations with India. We were, after all, at one time part of the same subcontinent. So, it makes no economic sense and it makes no political sense that there should be differences and difficulties and some problems between the two countries. But, I must confess to you that unless the situation in Kashmir improves, an improvement in the dialogue or relationships between our two countries is going to be a very difficult task. [end recording]

## Further on Qureshi Remarks

*BK0509161493 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 1500 GMT 5 Sep 93*

[Text] Caretaker Prime Minister Moin Qureshi has said that the country has come out of the financial crisis in which it was reeling when his government assumed office. Talking to foreign correspondents in Islamabad today, he said the caretaker government has established a climate of confidence, apart from giving a new direction to the country's economy in order to overcome the poor economic condition. He said that we have stabilized the budget situation, reduced the inflation rate, and slashed some administrative expenditures by implementing concrete and effective economic policies. The prime minister said that Pakistan expects to receive financial aid of $100 million from the World Bank, International Monetary Fund, and Asian Development Bank by the end of this month. He said that he had consulted with the leaders of the two major political parties—Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz Group and Pakistan People's Party—before announcing his economic package. They did not disagree with the steps his government intended to take. The caretaker prime minister said that Mohammad Nawaz Sharif and Ms. Benazir Bhutto had supported these economic reforms. They probably have some objections about the rise in prices, he added.

Moin Qureshi said that his government's top priority is to hold free and fair elections on the scheduled dates and there is no reason for any doubt in this regard.

On the drug problem, he said that a major drive has been launched to eradicate the menace and the government is taking a number of steps in this regard, including ending poppy cultivation and taking action against drug traffickers.

Answering a question, the prime minister said that the loan defaulters who fail to repay their loans by the 13th of this month will have to face legal action, and defaulting politicians will not be eligible to take part in the general elections.

On the kidnapping of the Chinese engineers, the prime minister said that the Pakistani Government is deeply concerned about them and wholehearted efforts are being made to secure their release.

Referring to Pakistan's relations with India, the prime minister said that the difficulties in the two countries' relations will continue until the Kashmir problem is resolved. We feel that large-scale atrocities are being carried out in occupied Kashmir and that human rights are being violated there.

Expressing Pakistan's displeasure with the U.S. sanctions because of the alleged purchase of M-11 missiles, Moin Qureshi termed the U.S. action totally unjust and unfair. He said that Pakistan has not received any missile in contravention of the Missile Technology Control Regime.

In reply to a question, the prime minister said that Pakistan has no desire to recognize Israel. We support every action that acknowledges the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

On terrorism, the prime minister said that Pakistan has always strongly opposed terrorism and has never allowed its territory to be used for terrorist activities. He said that some domestic and foreign groups are trying to create a law and order problem. But the government is aware of its responsibilities and these elements will be given exemplary punishment.

### Qureshi Addresses Siachen Troops on Defense Issues

*BK0809153193 Islamabad PTV Television Network in English 1400 GMT 8 Sep 93*

[Text] The caretaker prime minister, Mr. Moin Qureshi, has said that the Government of Pakistan will use all its resources to make the defense of the country impregnable. The prime minister, who visited the northern areas today, was addressing the troops at the forward areas in Siachen. Mr. Moin Qureshi said the defense of the country is the most important responsibility of the government, which will be fulfilled at all costs. The prime minister said that the government will pay special attention to the problems of those who are deployed at the Siachen front. The prime minister also announced 1.5 million rupees for the welfare of the jawans [soldiers] serving in this area.

The prime minister said that the Kashmir issue must be resolved to have a durable peace in the region. Pakistan has always tried to solve this issue with sincerity and on the basis of justice. However, he said that it is regrettable that this is not the attitude of the other side. The prime minister also condemned the human rights violations in occupied Kashmir.

The prime minister also witnessed a demonstration of the mountain craft and glaciated training which he appreciated. The display included assault repelling by nine men who came down in groups. This is carried for downhill assault on army bunkers. The jawans of the Pakistan Army also performed (?heat) rapelling adopted for evacuation of the injured and the dead. Lizard crawl rapelling and rock climbing were also performed by the brave soldiers of Pakistan Army. The chief of the army staff, General Abdul Waheed; Federal Interior Minister F.K. Bandial, and Minister of Kashmir Affairs retired Lieutenant Gen. Mohammad Shafiq, and the corps commander of Rawalpindi, Lt. Gen. Ghulam Mohammad Malik, were also present on the occasion.

The prime paid glowing tributes to the brave soldiers deployed at the Siachen Glacier. He was giving an interview to PTV correspondent M.Z. Sohail at Siachen today.

[Begin recording] [Sohail] Mr. Prime Minister, would you please comment on your visit to Siachen area?

[Qureshi] It is a very humbling experience for anyone to come here. In the midst of these majestic mountains which makes one feel extremely small and extremely humble, we have here our brave men from the armed forces who are defending our frontiers. They are laying down their lives in the interest of defending their country. I want to pay a tribute on behalf of the nation to those people who are here, who are doing an exemplary job, who are doing it under conditions of great hardships and who are doing it entirely because they love their country and they are prepared to make any sacrifice in order to defend their country. Aside from that, there is a feeling that I have, it is senseless that we are spending all of this effort, all of these resources and are risking the lives of these brave men merely because India is not prepared to negotiate in a peaceful atmosphere the whole problem of the Siachen Glacier. I hope that better sense will prevail, and we will be able to act peacefully toward each other. [end recording]

### Qureshi Cautions Against Anti-Election Conspiracy

*BK0909031993 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 9 Sep 93*

[Text] Acting Prime Minister Moin Qureshi has said that some forces both inside and outside the country are conspiring to create obstacles to holding general elections because they want to weaken the country. Talking to newsmen at Skardu prior to his departure for Islamabad yesterday, he urged the people to remain alert to the designs of these forces. He appealed to all sects and religious scholars to rise above their differences and foster unity and integrity in the greater interests of the country. He said that he was extremely saddened to know in detail the loss of life and property due to sectarian disturbances in the northern regions during the last five years. Such incidents have nothing to do with the teachings of Islam because Islam inculcates love, brotherhood, and mutual cooperation, the prime minister added.

### Armed Forces Chiefs Issue Defense Day Message

*BK0609065393 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 6 Sep 93*

[Text] The Defense of Pakistan Day is being observed today [6 September] with the nation renewing its pledge to spare no sacrifice for preserving the territorial integrity and solidarity of the country. The day began with the recitation of the holy Koran, followed by special prayers for the stability, progress, and prosperity of the country. The national flag is flying on all important private and government buildings.

In his Defense of Pakistan Day message, acting President Wasim Sajjad has said that the day symbolizes the importance the nation attaches to safeguarding the territorial integrity of the country and to ensuring the inviolability of its borders. He said that by remembering the matchless valor and sacrifices of our martyrs and war heroes, we revive the memories of the glorious fight that we gave the enemy in 1965. That war was not limited to our frontiers only. That was a war in which not only the valiant fighters of our Army, Navy, and Air Force proved their fighting capabilities, courage, and determination, it was also a war in which every Pakistani played his role in his own manner. The memories of those days have become a shining chapter of our history, which will always remain luminous. The president said we are fully determined to continue to strengthen our Armed Forces, within our resources, to enhance their capabilities, so that they can always remain fully prepared to effectively meet any challenge.

Caretaker Prime Minister Moin Qureshi, in his message on the occasion, has called upon the Pakistani Armed Forces to make full use of their capabilities and to remain vigilant in order to make Pakistan's defense insurmountable. He said that safeguarding the security, integrity, and solidarity of Pakistan is the highest priority of his government. To achieve this goal, it is imperative that, instead of depending on others, we should achieve self-sufficiency in our defense industry and other defense matters. He said that comprehensive planning on the national level is necessary to achieve this objective, and a strong economic base is a prerequisite for the success of the plan. Therefore, the government has presented a comprehensive economic and social program which will yield fruitful results.

The prime minister said elections are very essential for the success of the democratic system—and God willing—they will be held on the stipulated dates. He said he is pleased to see that all branches of the defense forces—Army, Navy, and Air Force—as well as various paramilitary organizations and agencies are extending their full cooperation to the civil administration and the Election Commission in this democratic process. The prime minister commended the role played by the Armed Forces, both in times of war and of peace. He appreciated the Pakistani military's peacekeeping role under the flag of the United Nations, saying that our troops have earned the respect and admiration of the entire world, which has enhanced Pakistan's prestige among the community of nations.

General Shamim Alam Khan, the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Committee, in his Defense of Pakistan Day message has said that we reaffirm our pledge that we shall not spare any effort nor consider any sacrifice too great to maintain our Armed Forces in perpetual readiness to counter any threat to the country and to do our duty in the best traditions of the defense forces of Pakistan.

Chief of Army Staff General Abdul Waheed said in his message that we had shattered the enemy's designs in 1965 and our success was the result of the nation's collective efforts and our great leader's [Mohammad Ali Jinnha] teachings about unity, faith, and organization. He said the armed forces will always live up to the expectations and trust of the nation.

In his message, Naval Chief Admiral Sayeed M. Khan said that our Navy, Army, and Air Force personnel had shattered the expansionist designs of the enemy in 1965.

Air Force Chief Air Chief Marshal Farooq Firoze Khan said the Pakistani Air Force is fully vigilant and ready to safeguard the country's solidarity and territorial integrity and will not flinch from any sacrifice in this regard.

### Part II of Sharif Party Manifesto

*BK0709135393 Karachi DAWN in English 27 Aug 93 p 13*

[Last of two installments of the "text" of Pakistan Muslim League-Nawaz Group's Election Manifesto]

[Text] In today's complex and interdependent world social, economic, political, and foreign policies of a country are all interrelated and directly affect the impact of each other. The basic objectives of our social policy will be to eliminate poverty, to provide a higher quality of life, to ensure greater equality, to provide security and efficient access to justice, to provide basic facilities of education, health, drinking water and sanitation to all the citizens of Pakistan. The social policy of the Pakistan Muslim League [PML] is, therefore, one of the main pillars of its programme.

The initiatives launched in the past two years have already touched the masses in all parts of Pakistan. The Prime Minister reached out to the poor and deprived masses. He consulted them, comforted them and gave genuine assistance to those who suffered from the devastating floods of 1992. Above all he bypassed traditional obstacles to deliver benefits directly to the poor. These initiatives will be continued and strengthened.

**Employment:** The Muslim League will give very high priority in its social agenda to solving the problem of unemployment by creating at least one million new jobs every year for skilled and semi- skilled workers through accelerated investment in agriculture and both large scale manufacturing and small scale rural industries, and through special credit facilities for self-employment programme for the educated youth.

Recognising the fiscal constraints in expanding employment opportunities in the public sector, the Government in its last two years launched two important schemes of self-employment for the benefit of the educated youth. Under the Yellow Taxi scheme introduced in February 1992, loans totalling Rs [rupees] 23,000 million have been sanctioned for 95,000 taxis, coaches, buses, and trucks. Of these, 40 per cent have already been delivered. Under the second scheme for self-employment 35,000 loans totalling Rs 4,500 million have been sanctioned for small scale industries and other enterprises. These two schemes, when completed, will provide employment to more than 500,000 persons, and sustenance to about 2.5 million people.

These schemes will continue and will be further extended to rural and remote areas. In addition, a scheme for providing small loans for "Yellow" bicycles to industrial workers and other low income groups with the cooperation of the employers will be launched.

Under the new labour policy the well being of workers, including their medical needs, and free education of workers' children, will be given special attention. The minimum wages of Rs 1,500 per month, recently enacted through an Act of Parliament, will be fully implemented, and progressively increased to Rs 3,000 per month as promised in the 1990 IJI [Islami Jamhoori Ittehad, Islamic Democratic Alliance] Manifesto.

**Development of Human Resources:** The country's human resources are its most precious asset. We cannot enter the 21st century as a modern and vibrant nation with two-thirds of the population suffering from illiteracy and ill-health. The Muslim League Government has already formulated a Comprehensive Social Action Programme to greatly expand primary education, primary health care, rural water supply and sanitation and family welfare service. The PML will fully implement this programme. In addition, it will take the following other measures in the field of education and health.

The new and comprehensive education policy announced in early 1993 will be fully implemented with adequate funding.

To achieve a literacy level of seventy per cent by the year 2002 and to gain a decisive edge in science and technology, a mass literacy drive for adults will be launched besides expanding primary education.

To make the best use of its human resources, a Yellow "Gold Card" scheme for students will be introduced. Students attaining the top positions in all recognised universities and institutions at degree level will be issued a Gold Card which will entitle them to higher education at Government expense for the rest of their educational career, provided they maintain their academic performance.

A basic health dispensary for preventive medicine will be provided in every mohallah [locality] and every medium-sized village with the participation of the local community.

A rural network will be established throughout Pakistan to enable local communities to organise themselves at village level for skill development, mobilising local financial and human resources, undertaking income-generating projects, and provision of basic services.

**Direct Benefits to the Poor:** The economic programme aimed at expanding investment and employment, outlined above, will directly benefit the poorer segments of society by providing jobs and incomes and a sense of participation in socio-economic development. The self-employment programmes, by channelling a significant portion of the credit to low income groups, will help close the gap between the rich and the poor. Similarly, the Social Action Plan, by providing additional facilities for primary education, primary health care, drinking water, and rural sanitation will help to improve the living standards of poor masses, particularly in rural areas. in addition, the Muslim League government, as part of its social programme, will concentrate on the following.

i) Maintaining relative price stability by controlling budgetary deficits and inflation.

ii) Enlarge the scheme for food stamps according to their entitlement.

iii) Improving the system of zakat [Islamic tax] so that all *mustahekeen* [deserving people] can receive their monthly allowances without any difficulty.

iv) Expanding the system of Baitulmal [provision of funds from the public exchequer] to all the widows, the aged, and handicapped persons who need assistance for their sustenance.

v) Implementing the national housing policy to provide at least 50,000 housing plots to low income groups for building shelters with financing from the private housing finance companies.

vi) Undertaking a comprehensive programme to improve existing villages and towns, and building new model villages and towns with a modern commercial and marketing centre in every Union Council.

The combination of social and economic policies when fully implemented will produce a highly desirable outcome of greater equality. All the advanced states of the world boast a large middle class. A degree of social justice and equality are a prerequisite to rapid development. We are fully committed to the rapid growth of a middle class through policies of industrialisation which will produce middle and junior management and through foreign investments which transfer technology and develop our human resources. The agricultural policies will increase the income of small land-holders through higher value agriculture and elevate them towards the rural middle class.

**Women:** Women constitute more than fifty per cent of our population. However, in most cases they are deprived of their basic social, economic and legal rights. No society has made progress without the development of women. The Muslim League will take determined and far-reaching steps to upgrade their condition and status with the following specific policies and programmes:

To ensure women's participation in the National Assembly, measures will be taken to revive the constitutional provision under Article 51(4) for 20 reserved seats for women.

Effective formulation and implementation of laws to protect women against oppression, maltreatment and discrimination including the ratification of the UN Convention on the Elimination of [incomplete sentence as published]

Stronger legislative and administrative measures will be undertaken to create a safe social and physical environment for women; and combat all forms of violence against women, including domestic violence, harassment, and humiliation of women.

Financial support will be provided to those organisations which provide legal aid and counselling centres for women in need of help in different parts of the country. In addition, suitable shelters, called *saiban*, will be established for female victims of violence and injustice .

Expanding and upgrading the women police force, improving prison conditions, and providing state counselling for women prisoners.

A national employment policy far women will be formulated for female workers in the formal and informal sectors and steps taken to extend the legal cover of an adequate minimum wage, acceptable working hours, health and maternity benefits to casual, temporary, and piece-rate workers.

The government will promote through the private sector the establishment of child care centres and working women's hostels to enable women to take up full time employment, according to their qualifications.

**Youth and Children:** The Muslim League will undertake concrete policies and programmes to motivate the country's youth to realize their full potential and help to bring about a social revolution through:

A movement for organising the youth to enthusiastically participate in the moral, social and economic revival of the country.

Giving high priority to the employment of youth in all sectors of the economy, through credit programmes for self-employment.

Encouraging healthy activities in all educational institutions to prevent the younger generations from unhealthy influences. Encouraging youth organisations to provide opportunities for social work in *kutchi abadis* [urban slums] and rural areas.

Taking strong measures to eradicate drug addiction amongst the youth as a part of comprehensive programme to prevent the production and use of drugs.

Protecting children from child labour and child abuse through the full implementation of relevant laws and participation of NGOs [non-government organizations] to report cases of infringement.

**Austerity Measures:** Muslim League will encourage austerity in public expenditure and discourage ostentatious expenditure by the people. For this purpose necessary legal, administrative and fiscal measures will be adopted.

### IV. National Security and Foreign Policy

The threat to our security has never been more serious than it is at present. The Muslim League shall accord the highest priority to strengthening the capability of our armed forces to defend the territorial integrity of Pakistan and to contribute to the promotion of regional peace and security.

Our foreign policy, inspired by the Pakistan Movement, will aim at protecting vital security and economic interests of the nation. The guiding principles of our foreign policy will be as follows:

The Muslim League shall work for the realisation of the objective of "seeking friendship with all and enmity towards none" as prescribed by the Quaid-i-Azam [Mohammad Ali Jinnah].

The Muslim League will work for the establishment of a just world order based on the UN Charter and the principles of peaceful coexistence such as equality of states regardless of size, location, and resources; non-interference in the affairs of one state by any other; peaceful resolution of interstate conflicts; and equitable terms of economic interaction among states.

The Muslim League commits itself to the sacred responsibility of securing the right of self-determination of the people of Jammu and Kashmir in accordance with the relevant UN resolutions.

The Muslim League shall endeavour to establish friendly and cooperative relations with all neighbouring countries of South Asia, South West Asia, and Central Asia. We shall work for the settlement of all outstanding issues impeding good neighbourly relations with India without compromising Pakistan's historic commitment to the right of the people of Jammu and Kashmir to determine their destiny in accordance with the relevant UN resolutions.

The Muslim League shall work for promoting unity and solidarity amongst Islamic states and resolutely support all Islamic causes, especially Kashmir, Bosnia, and Palestine.

The Muslim League believes in a nuclear programme for peaceful purposes and is opposed both to unilateral and discriminatory curbs on the development of the nation's nuclear capability, or any roll- back of the nuclear capability. Pakistan's nuclear programme must be geared to the realisation of the country's national security and socio-economic development.

The Muslim League believes that Pakistan cannot remain in isolation from the growing trend of the establishment of regional blocs which enhance the security and economic prosperity of their members and strengthen their bargaining position in the world. Pakistan should, therefore, strengthen the ECO [Economic Cooperation Organization] which groups together nations with which Pakistan is bound by durable links of faith, history, geography, and common aspirations of peace and prosperity

The Muslim League will wholeheartedly support, as a principal objective of its foreign policy, Afghanistan's efforts to promote peace, reconciliation and reconstruction.

Friendship with China will remain a cornerstone of Pakistan's foreign policy. Muslim League will seek to further strengthen this time-tested, mutually beneficial relationship.

Pakistan has had a long-standing, mutually beneficial relationship with the US, the E.C. states and Japan. It will be the endeavour of Pakistan Muslim League to concert actions with these countries for promoting international peace and security.

Pakistan will continue to pursue a principled foreign policy based on forging relations through equality and reciprocity, and opposing double standards, duplicity, and discrimination in principles, policies or perceptions in international relations.

## Awami National Party President in Quetta Murdered

*BK0609030893 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 6 Sep 93*

[Text] Reports from Quetta say that yesterday [5 September] unknown assassins fired at Abdul Waheed Khilji, the Quetta city president of the Awami National Party, while he was sitting outside his residence. He was killed on the spot, and two persons, including his brother, were injured in the shooting.

## PML Alleges Bhutto Link With U.S. Jewish Lobby

*BK0909072193 Karachi DAWN in English 7 Sep 93 p 12*

[Text] Lahore, Sept 6—A spokesman for the Pakistan Muslim League [PML] (N) has alleged that the link of Ms Benazir Bhutto with the Jewish lobby were no longer a secret as she has always relied on its support and which in turn, secured support for her in the United States.

Commenting on the statement by the PPP [Pakistan People's Party] Secretary General, Sheikh Rafiq Ahmed, the PML spokesman recalled as to how the entire Pakistani nation had voiced its strong oppossition to hiring of the services of Mark Seagul, [name as published]a Jewish firm, to have herself established in the influential circles in the US but she went ahead with her plans.

The PPP Co-Chairman had also developed close contacts with the circles not very friendly with Pakistan only for enhancing her own image, he alleged.

The PML (N) spokesman further alleged that she was also known to have close contacts with Stephen Solarz, who was most enthusiatically supported by the Indo-Jewish lobby in New York. She had even decorated him with the highest Pakistani Civil award Hilal- i-Pakistan despite the fact that he had contributed in stopping aid to Pakistan.

He said the then Foreign Relations Committee of the US Senate, which was headed by Stephen Solarz, had never been friendly towards Pakistan.

The spokesman maintained that Stephen Solarz was now being appointed the US Ambassador to India. The political circles in Pakistan are of the view that it will not augur well for Pakistan.

The spokesman said on the contrary Mr Nawaz Sharif during the entire period as Prime Minister of Pakistan never had any friendly terms in the US with those who did not have soft corner for Pakistan.

Mr Nawaz Sharif always considered himself to be a Pakistani and never aligned himself with any group or individual inimical to Pakistan, the spokesman said.

Mr Nawaz Sharif never bartered away the national interests of Pakistan but always considered the interest of the country supreme, he added.

The spokesman said it was peculiar only to PPP leaders to pose threats to security of Pakistan while staying overseas. Some of them had even threatened to attack Pakistan while riding Indian tanks.

Even Mir Murtaza Bhutto indulged in acts of violence against Pakistan during his forced exile to avenge execution of his father after a fair court trial, he stated.

He said the spokesman for the PPP should not distort facts in any manner. Pakistan's interests, he asserted, would always remain secure so long as the country's affairs were in the hands of the Pakistan Muslim League.

## Sri Lanka

### New Committee Launched To Confront LTTE

*BK0609113093 Hong Kong AFP in English 0804 GMT 6 Sep 93*

[Text] Colombo, Sept 6 (AFP)—Sri Lanka President Dingiri Banda Wijetunge Monday made key changes in the military command structure and set up a high-powered committee to lead the war against separatist Tamil Tiger guerrillas.

Wijetunge disbanded the Joint Operations Command (JOC) which earlier co-ordinated the drive against the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) and had powers overriding chiefs of the army, navy, air force and police.

A two-page statement from the presidential secretariat said the changes were in line with the "reorganisation of the defence establishment" ordered by Wijetunge who is also defence minister and commander-in-chief of armed forces.

The head of the JOC General Hamilton Wanasinghe was promoted new defence secretary replacing Walter Fernando, a former air force chief who resigned Monday due to "personal reasons", the statement said.

The JOC itself is to be replaced by a small unit under the ministry of defence and the war effort against the LTTE would be led by a "defence coordinating committee" (DCC) headed by Wanasinghe.

The DCC will include heads of the armed forces, police chief, head of elite Special Task Force Commandos and the head of the National Intelligence Bureau, the statement said.

"The Defence Coordinating Committee will be responsible for preparing strategic plans and providing for the strategic direction of the armed services, police and the special task force," the statement said.

A senior defence official said the changes were aimed at decentralising powers and allowing a greater involvement in service commanders in the drive against the LTTE.

"We will see greater emphasis on small battle groups. We will see more powers given to service chiefs," the defence source who did not want to be named said.

Government politicians have acknowledged that the military was plagued with personality clashes at senior officer level and the bickering has led to inspired leaks aimed at embarassing rivals.

Sri Lankan security forces are currently leading a drive against the LTTE which is fighting to establish an independent homeland in the island's northern and eastern regions where the two million Tamil minority is concentrated.

### Further on New Operations Unit

*BK0709122793 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English 1045 GMT 7 Sep 93*

[Text] The defense establishment has been reorganized with effect from yesterday. The headquarters of the Joint Operations Command will be disbanded. In its place, a small operation unit will be established in the Defense Ministry. It will assist the defense secretary in the coordination of all matters pertaining to defense and national security. Under the reorganization made on the directions of the president, the armed forces and the officers of the police forces engaged in antiterrorist operations shall remain under the respective commands of the commander of the army, the commander of the navy, the commander of the air force, and the inspector general of the police force. A high-powered Defense Coordinating Committee has been established with immediate effect under the chairmanship of the secretary to the Defense Ministry. It also comprises the three service commanders, the inspector general of police, the director of the NIB [National Intelligence Bureau], and the commandant of the STF [Special Task Force]. The Defense Coordinating Committee will be responsible for preparing strategic plans and providing strategic directions to the armed services, the police, and the Special Task Force. It will also be responsible for establishing unified commands in strategic areas and collectively planning, formulating, deciding, and carrying out antiterrorist operations and such other joint operations where necessary.